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JPRS 84642

28 October 1983

Southeast Asia Report

No. 1359

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28 October 1983

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

No. 1359

CONTENTS

INDONESIA

Financial Reforms Bring Money Flooding Back Into Country (Chris Sherwell; DAWN, 2 Oct 83).....	1
Credit Granted to Entrepreneurs in East Java (SURABAYA POST, 29 Aug 83).....	4
EEC Treatment of Indonesian Textile Exports Called Unfair (HARIAN UMUM AB, 2 Sep 83).....	6
Editorial Warning Against Communist Subversion (Editorial; SURABAYA POST, 2 Aug 83).....	8
East Timor Visit May Counteract Fretilin Propaganda (Editorial; SURABAYA POST, 3 Aug 83).....	9
Foreign Banks Allegedly Engage in Illegal Operations (SURABAYA POST, 1 Aug 83).....	11
East Java Mothers Do Not Have To Pay for Sterilization (SURABAYA POST, 10 Aug 83).....	12
Fifty Percent Reduction in Birth Rate Anticipated (SURABAYA POST, 22 Aug 83).....	13
Cooperation of ASEAN Young People Important (Editorial; SURABAYA POST, 8 Aug 83).....	14
No Standard Policy on Wearing Veils at School (SURABAYA POST, 9 Aug 83).....	15
Veil Required in Surabaya Muhammadiyah High School (SURABAYA POST, 31 Aug 83).....	17

Government Urged To Increase Time for Islamic Religious Studies	
(PELITA, 2 Sep 83).....	19

Briefs

Editorial Deplores Aquino Assassination	21
Colombian Ambassador Approved	21
Increase in Scandinavian Trade	22
Loan for Sugar Mill	22

MALAYSIA

Proposed Ratio for Apportioning Election Districts Viewed	
(KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS, 4 Aug 83).....	23
Important Mission of Prime Minister's Trip to Korea	
(Editorial; KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS, 9 Aug 83).....	25
Purpose of Prime Minister's Trip to Korea Examined	
(Editorial; SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA, 10 Aug 83).....	27
PM's Trip to Korea Termed Successful	
(Editorial; SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA, 15 Aug 83).....	29
Minister Assures Freedom of Non-Muslim Religions	
(SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA, 15 Aug 83).....	31
Civic Leader Calls on Chinese To Keep Supporting MCA	
(SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA, 8 Aug 83).....	32
DAP Leader Cites UMNO's Lack of Respect for MCA	
(KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS, 15 Aug 83).....	33
Ways for Chinese To Unite Themselves Discussed	
(KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS, 15 Aug 83).....	35
Mission of Chinese Schools Discussed in Seminar	
(KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS, 6 Aug 83).....	37
DAP Calls on Chinese Groups To Hold National Cultural Conference	
(KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS, 7 Aug 83).....	39
Formulating National Communications Policy Discussed	
(Editorial; SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA, 8 Aug 83).....	41
Government Urged To Keep 'Malaysian Car Project' Free of Racial Bias	
(KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS, 9 Aug 83).....	43

Briefs	45
Malay-Owned Companies	
PHILIPPINES	
Nation Preoccupied With Aquino Killing (Arturo A. Borjal; METRO MANILA TIMES, 11 Oct 83).....	46
Bankers Fear Further Peso Devaluations (BUSINESS DAY, 11 Oct 83).....	48
Paper Sees 'Minority' as 'Oppressor' (Editorial; TIMES JOURNAL, 10 Oct 83).....	50
Western Press Criticized at Inter-Asian Meeting (Jesus Bigornia; BULLETIN TODAY, 5 Oct 83).....	51
Editorial on Danger of Government Overreaction (Editorial; PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 1 Oct 83).....	52
Increased Military Training 'Offered' (BULLETIN TODAY, 1 Oct 83).....	53
NRA Guerrillas Ambush AFP Troops (PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 2 Oct 83 ; BULLETIN TODAY, 3 Oct 83).....	54
Troops Sent To Track Down Guerrillas, by Roy Ramos Official Report Lists 46 Dead, by Vic Arevalo	
Iranian Students Reportedly Planning Terrorist Activities (BULLETIN TODAY, 4 Oct 83).....	57
Editorial: No Deep Differences Between Demonstrators, Government (Editorial; BULLETIN TODAY, 2 Oct 83).....	58
AFP Successes Against Terrorists Reported (BULLETIN TODAY, 2 Oct 83).....	59
Enrile on Expected 'Marxist' Incursions (METRO MANILA TIMES, 9 Oct 83).....	60
Mindoro Oriental Political Scramble Viewed (F. T. Flores; BULLETIN TODAY, 1 Oct 83).....	62
Pro-Government Muslims Cite Saudi Envoy's Support (BULLETIN TODAY, 1 Oct 83).....	63

Central Bank Considers Barring Government Firm Borrowing (George Nervez; PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 1 Oct 83).....	64
\$300 Million Needed To Service Country's Debts (George T. Nervez; PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 4 Oct 83)...	66
Economic Slowdown Reported in Northern Luzon (Milton P. Pascua; BULLETIN TODAY, 5 Oct 83).....	69
Report on Philippine Workers in Saudi Arabia (BULLETIN TODAY, 3 Oct 83).....	71
Consumer Blackout Protests NPC Inaction (E. T. Suarez; BULLETIN TODAY, 1 Oct 83).....	72
United Coconut Association Releases Export Figures (BULLETIN TODAY, 2 Oct 83; PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 3 Oct 83).....	73
Sharp Rise in August Annual Exports Drop	
Virata Anticipates 12 Percent Export Rise (BULLETIN TODAY, 1 Oct 83).....	75
RP May Have To Buy Sugar To Meet Export Schedule (BULLETIN TODAY, 1 Oct 83).....	77
National Food Authority Announces New Rice, Palay Prices (Fred Lobo; BULLETIN TODAY, 1 Oct 83).....	78
Crop Loan Plan Fails in Northern Luzon (Wilfredo R. Estolas; BULLETIN TODAY, 3 Oct 83).....	79
Bill Grants Tax Exemption to Land Donors (BULLETIN TODAY, 1 Oct 83).....	80
Briefs	
Drought Spreads to North	81
Development Program for Muslims	81
Bomb Scare Grips Davao	81
Farmers' Group Support Marcos	82
Amnesty to Father Kangleon	82
Worker Layoffs	82

THAILAND

Lao Border Booms in U.S.-Supplied Weapons; Prices Noted (Midet Techo; MATUPHUM, 1 Jul 83).....	83
---	----

Recon Regiment Proposed; Current Deficiencies Noted (MATUPHUM, 28 Jun 83).....	87
Columnist Notes Corruption, Desertion in Military (O Bangphlat; DAO SIAM, 28 Jul 83).....	88
Mobilization of Reservists for Training Noted (DAO SIAM, 27 Jul 83).....	90
Troops Reclaim Land for Farmers on PRK Border (DAO SIAM, 18 Jul 83).....	91
Villagers Say Lao Refugees Involved in Robberies (DAO SIAM, 15 Jul 83).....	93
Reporters See PRK Border Demarcation, Refugee Evacuation (BAN MUANG, 18 Jul 83).....	95
Curfew Ordered in Yala (BAN MUANG, 16 Jul 83).....	98
Editorial Discusses Peasant Landlessness (Editorial; BAN MUANG, 29 Jul 83).....	100
Police Involved in Khmer Seri Weapons Trafficking (MATICHON, 28, 27 Jun 83).....	102
Weapons Sold to Karen Insurgents Ammunition Seized	
Briefs	
Military Deserters Return	104
Athit Dedicates Sarit Monument	104

VIETNAM

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

Catholic Priests Punished for 'Counterrevolutionary Propaganda Activities' (Tran Mai; DAI DOAN KET, No 16, 3 Aug 83).....	105
Chu Huy Man Speaks at All-Army Trade Union Congress (Chu Huy Man; QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, 20 Aug 83).....	113

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

PCF's Marchais Receives Vo Chi Cong Delegation (VNA, 7 Oct 83).....	121
CPV Greet PDRY Socialist Party Founding (VNA, 12 Oct 83).....	122
SRV Leaders Thank GDR for Anniversary Message (NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 30 Sep 83).....	123
Pham Van Dong Sends Condolences to Nicaragua (Hanoi Domestic Service, 4 Oct 83).....	124
Briefs	
Cuban Assembly Delegation To Visit	125
Libyan Economic Delegation Arrives	125
Party Delegation Returns From France	125
Cong Delegation Leaves Paris	125
Youth Delegation Leaves Hanoi	126
Lao Youth Delegation Received	126
Cypriot Leader Greeted	126
CPV, PCF Delegations Hold Talks	126
Anniversary Greetings To Peruvian CP	127
Japanese Ambassador Leaves	127
Embassy Marks Army Day	127
Youth Delegation Arrives for Visit	127
New SRV Ambassador Received	128
Construction Delegation Ends Visit	128

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

NHAN DAN Reports on Nghia Binh Party Conference (NHAN DAN, 8 Sep 83).....	129
NHAN DAN Reports Binh Tri Thien Party Conference (NHAN DAN, 9 Sep 83).....	132
Ho Chi Minh City Wants To Support Oil-Gas Search (Hanoi Domestic Service, 14 Oct 83).....	134

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

Coastal Districts Assisted in Completing Plans (Hanoi Domestic Service, 14 Oct 83).....	135
Credit Uses in Ha Son Binh's Agriculture Detailed (Bui Huong Phuc; NHAN DAN, 8 Sep 83).....	136

Posted Food Prices Ignored in Ho Chi Minh City (Bien Xanh; DOC LAP, 24 Aug 83).....	137
AGRICULTURE	
Progress of Nationwide Land Survey Reported (NHAN DAN, 11 Sep 83).....	139
NHAN DAN on Agricultural Product Contract System (Editorial; Hanoi Domestic Service, 2 Oct 83).....	140
Phu Khanh Reorganizes Agricultural Production (VNA, 9 Oct 83).....	142
HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION	
Questions Raised About Proposed Power Plant in South (Nguyen Viet Phach; KHOA HOC VA DOI SONG, 1 Sep 83).....	144
LIGHT INDUSTRY	
Briefs Paper Production	146
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS	
Improvements To Transport Contracts Suggested (Hoang The Phiet; NHAN DAN, 8 Sep 83).....	147
LABOR	
Hanoi Trade Union Federation Congress Closes (Hanoi Domestic Service, 13 Oct 83).....	150
Hanoi Trade Union Federation Opens 9th Congress (VNA, 11 Oct 83).....	152
POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE	
Islamic Official Describes Muslims in SRV (VNA, 5 Oct 83).....	153

FINANCIAL REFORMS BRING MONEY FLOODING BACK INTO COUNTRY

Karachi DAWN in English 2 Oct 83 Business Supplement p 3

[Article by Chris Sherwell]

[Text] At lunchtime on June 1 this year, the heads of banks and financial institutions operating in Jakarta received a telex asking them to attend an important meeting at Bank Indonesia, the central bank, that afternoon. Few of them had any idea that three hours later a minor revolution would be under way.

A number of liberalising reforms took effect that day with the overriding aim of mobilising domestic savings. In a sweeping move, the Government announced, among other things:

- The removal of ceilings on interest rates which the five state-owned commercial banks could offer on rupiah time deposits.
- An exemption from tax for interest earned on time deposits denominated in foreign currencies (matching an existing rule regarding rupiah deposits).
- The removal of all quantitative ceilings on bank loans.

Fifteen weeks later, the impact appears little short of stunning, with the latest figures from Bank Indonesia, covering the period only to the second week of July showing an explosive growth in three, six- and 12-month deposits with the state-owned banks, which completely dominate Indonesian commercial banking. Economists reckon the trend has continued since.

Interest rates on time deposits meanwhile stand at 15-18 percent, having previously been fixed at a maximum of 13 and 1/2 percent for 24-month money. This free market level, quickly reached under a watchful central bank eye, is slightly too high, according to some private sector bankers who add that there are signs it could weaken a little. Either way, it translates into an effective pretax return of a healthy 34 percent.

The reforms are also believed to have attracted back a substantial part of the capital which fled Indonesia earlier this year, taking advantage of the rupiah's free convertibility. This occurred particularly in the days and weeks ahead of the 27.5 percent devaluation of the rupiah at the end of March.

The money has been attracted back not only by the high interest rates on rupiah deposits but also by the tax exemption on foreign deposits. Thus, dollars have been returning from nearby financial centres like Singapore and have swollen both rupiah time deposits and the local dollar market, although rates on the latter are less than the Singapore inter-bank offered rates (Sibor).

Further consequences of the liberalisation have been felt on the fledgling capital market, mainly to its detriment. With high interest rates available at the banks, institutions have felt even more disinclined to pick up new share issues on the stock market where the return is less.

Problems

Indeed, encouraging activity on the seven-year-old stock market cannot easily disguise some continuing problems which the Government is having difficulty in coming to grips with.

Only two of the existing listed companies, for example, have actually managed to meet the projections they gave at the time they went public and share prices--against the trend elsewhere--have weakened.

Reinforcing the disincentive caused by the relatively poor returns has been the Government's own approach in trying to build up the markets, emphasising stability of prices (only a limited daily change in price is permitted) rather than free trading. The aim is to prevent gambling and speculation--the very risk element which many outsiders regard as an essential.

To be set against this is the Government's decision to allow the state authority which builds toll roads, PT Jasa Marga, to issue its second five-year bond with a more attractive coupon of 16.5 percent and, for the first time, with no withholding tax on the interest payments.

Although government institutions have still had to be encouraged to take it up, for financial institutions it represents a way of producing a tax-free income. This is because they are not permitted to invest in bank time deposits. But holders of the previous Jasa Marga issue, which had a lower coupon and no liberal tax provision, are believed to have traded in their holdings for the new issue. The price of the earlier bond--the first domestic bond issued by a state-owned company--has thus suffered.

In a country where there is effectively no government paper, the financial institutions remain under pressure to support the capital markets. But many are too small, and most of the responsibility lies with PT Danareksa, a large state organisation which is effectively a national investment company established to spread share ownership among lower income groups.

The company has the right of first refusal on at least 50 percent of any new issue, and either sells bearer certificates to the public in small denominations or places shares in a mutual fund and sells stock units. But supporting

a weak market appears to have become too burdensome and even the issuing of certificates is now believed to have stopped.

A key weakness is the absence of secondary market activity, and here again the financial institutions are believed to be involved in discussions with the authorities regarding ways to stimulate the secondary market. But developments seem likely to depend on the primary markets becoming more attractive places to operate.

The state bank's biggest problems at the moment concern the product deployment of the funds they have attracted. The recession has taken such a hold that outlets are few, while the past pattern of putting funds in dollar deposits is not encouraged by the Government.

Other questions also remain. While the old days of cheap "liquidity credits" at the central bank and of credit ceilings are over, it is still unclear exactly how Bank Indonesia will wield the monetary instruments which are so familiar elsewhere, to control credit and the money supply. The talk is of a new rediscounting policy and the use of penal rates.

Secondly, while the mobilisation and more efficient allocation of resources is under way, it seems unlikely to have any practical effect until the recession passes. Having completely reoriented the banking environment in Indonesia, the central bank must reflect happily that it has picked the right moment to make its move, if somewhat ruefully at the recession's toll.

Dawn Financial Times Service

CSO: 4200/71

CREDIT GRANTED TO ENTREPRENEURS IN EAST JAVA

Surabaya SURABAYA POST In Indonesian 29 Aug 83 p 2

[Article: "130,000 East Java Entrepreneurs Are Recorded as Having Obtained SIUP"]

[Text] According to the East Java Regional Office of the Ministry of Trade, 130,000 entrepreneurs to date have been recorded as having been granted commercial licenses (SIUP).

Their number is increasing rapidly (only 60,000 were recorded at the beginning of PELITA III [third 5-year economic development plan]) because of the better service being provided by Trade Ministry employees, and because of heightened awareness on the part of entrepreneurs toward the importance of having a SIUP. One of the stipulations for being granted KIK [small investment credit] of KMKP [permanent working capital credit] is that the grantee must first obtain a SIUP.

Credit

Because more SIUP's are being issued, therefore more credit is being granted. According to the Book of Indonesia in Surabaya, credit granted from January to March 1982 was recorded at 1,068 billion rupiahs, while from January to March 1983 it was recorded at 1,373 billion rupiahs.

Credit granted by both government and private banks in East Java was as follows: 748.9 billion rupiahs in 1980, 992.8 billion rupiahs in 1981, and 1,310.7 billion rupiahs in 1982.

From January to March 1983, KIK and KMKP recipients numbered 672,928 with a nominal credit value of 517,338,000,000 rupiahs.

Support

In order to provide better support to financially weak entrepreneurs, the Bank of Indonesia, through the KIK and KMKP programs, has formed regional project management units (RPMU). The goal of these RPMU's is to increase the number and improve the quality of small businesses.

All RPMU employees are given directions on how to evaluate a project survey and how to organize a survey for project identification (SPID). Those receiving this training are private and government banking personnel. It is hoped that they will become able counselors to both existing and potential KIK and KMKP clients. Even more important is the fact that these trainees will receive the latest technology in this field.

Private banks are hoping that the Bank of Indonesia, while becoming involved in the RPMU program, will also increase their role in the KIK-KMKP programs.

To date RPMU's have produced 101 reports: 35 for the agricultural sector, 52 for industry, 9 for transportation and 5 for trade. Sixteen other reports are yet to be evaluated.

The KIK and KMKP credit offered on the basis of these reports are as follows: 4,988 KIK applicants granted credit valued at 6.09 billion rupiahs, and 73,291 KMKP applicants granted credit valued at 22.1 billion rupiahs.

6804

CSO: 4213/571

EEC TREATMENT OF INDONESIAN TEXTILE EXPORTS CALLED UNFAIR

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 2 Sep 83 pp 1, 3

[Text] Jakarta, HARIAN UMUM AB--The behavior of the European Economic Community toward Indonesian textile exports, particularly for Category 3 textile exports (woven synthetic fiber), is unfair. Indonesia had just begun to develop its exports of this commodity when limits were placed on them.

This was stated by Dr Rachmat Muljomiseno yesterday [1 September] in reviewing the consultations and negotiations between Indonesian and EEC officials which were held in Den Pasar [Bali] last Monday [29 August]. Up to now Indonesia had only begun to develop its exports of Category 3 textiles, which amounted to 1,900 tons this year.

Compared with other countries, Indonesian exports are still small. In 1982-83 South Korea exported 14,455 tons of Category 3 textiles to the EEC; Hong Kong exported 42,926 tons; India, 46,567 tons; Malaysia, 16,523 tons; Pakistan, 22,475 tons; Singapore, 4,330 tons; Thailand, 33,340 tons; Taiwan, 11,661 tons; and the PRC [People's Republic of China], 27,636 tons.

In seeking to overcome the limits set by the EEC in accordance with the protectionist program for which it has been blamed, the Indonesian government must be willing to listen to the advice provided by private businessmen.

The businessmen say: "The government and private businessmen must create a harmonious working atmosphere and act together to deal with the protectionist system set up by the European Economic Community."

Export obstacles faced by Indonesia, particularly exports not consisting of oil or natural gas, are still substantial, particularly in the tariff as well as the non-tariff area, such as the establishment of quotas, as well as sharp competition from countries exporting the same commodities as Indonesia.

According to Doctor Rachmat, trading conditions faced by both the petroleum as well as the non-petroleum sector are deteriorating, both in terms of demand as well as prices on the world market. For that reason, the treatment of commodities as a whole must be the same, since demand and price are the foundations for obtaining foreign exchange.

In that connection it has been suggested that the government and private business associations must talk side by side and create a harmonious atmosphere for raising the level of all aspects of trade which involve commodity exports, both in terms of the quality of production, so that it will satisfy consumer preferences, and in terms of business practices more in accordance with market conditions. He stated firmly: "Only in such a way can the desire for Indonesian exports be increased."

Speaking of the role of Indonesian press attaches abroad, Rachmat Muljomiseno declared that the economic sections of Indonesian embassies overseas must be made more active, particularly in providing market information to businessmen in Indonesia.

Business Mind

Later on in discussing arrangements in the trade area by the government and by the Ministry of Trade in particular, Rachmat Muljomiseno declared that the best thing for officials who handle the foreign trade sector to be required to have is a business mind so that they can understand the ins and outs of trade.

Rachmat Muljomiseno, a former member of Parliament and a former minister of trade, said: "There really is a difference between theory and practice in trade."

It was for that reason that he urged the government to make a practice of asking for the advice of businessmen in the course of making policy or in preparing regulations aimed at increasing exports.

All advice should be regarded as an effort to strengthen overall success and not exclusively for the benefit of the group involved. In this way unity of outlook between the government and its representatives in the field will be achieved.

In addition, honesty must still be demanded from businessmen in giving correct advice and in preparing reliable reports, so that government policy will be right on the target which government and business jointly wish to reach.

5170

CSO: 4213/5

EDITORIAL WARNING AGAINST COMMUNIST SUBVERSION

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 2 Aug 83 p 6

[Editorial: "Subversive Activities"]

[Text] In Colombo the government has banned three Marxist parties on the grounds that they attempted to overthrow the legal government. The parties are accused of being behind recent racial disturbances and to have received support from a certain foreign country. Observers identify this country as the Soviet Union.

And in Jakarta the Workmens Insurance Company (ASTEK) has fired 17 employees whom only now have been found to have been involved in the 30 September Movement. This has prompted the chairman of the GOLKAR group in Parliament to call on institutions in the private sector to maintain vigilance and to carefully examine their organizations against the possibility of similar penetration.

These two incidents serve to warn us once again of the latent but concrete threat of communist subversion. And this is no fabricated warning that has been devised by someone simply because he is an anticommunist, for communist subversion is real and is active. It can occur at any time and any place as long as they have not achieved their objective of controlling other nations and the world.

Even, or particularly, when a situation appears to be stable, communist subversion is quietly but actively working away to spread its influence and to exploit every available opportunity--especially in matters involving ethnicity, religion, race or relations between social groups--so that when the time comes a surprise attack can be launched. Such an attack can have fatal results, and can originate in an incident which may appear to be insignificant.

In Sri Lanka we find the bitter reality of subversion, and in Jakarta the symptoms of subversion and a cogent reminder.

5458

CSO: 4213/569

EAST TIMOR VISIT MAY COUNTERACT FRETILIN PROPAGANDA

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 3 Aug 83 p 6

[Editorial: "After Seeing for Themselves"]

[Text] After the Australian parliamentary delegation completed its visit to East Timor, Bill Morrison, the head of the delegation, said that the mission's 10-day visit to Indonesia and the time it spent in East Timor would begin a new and more meaningful page in the relations between Australia and Indonesia.

This statement was made after the delegation--which is composed of three members of the majority Labor Party and two members of the Liberal Party--freely visited areas of their own choosing, conversed with the local people and government officials, witnessed the people's strong desire and concentrated effort to rid themselves of the legacy left by the Portuguese colonial government, and saw the progress being made in the development of the region. The delegation even admitted that in another 3 or 4 years East Timor would be self-sufficient in food and able to export rice.

It could be assumed from the beginning that if the Australian Labor Party would send some of its people to Indonesia, to East Timor in particular, then it would see that conditions there were quite different from, and even the opposite of, the picture painted by Fretilin's propaganda. In Australia, Fretilin carries out a nonstop propaganda campaign aimed at denigrating Indonesia. The fact that the Labor Party has swallowed this propaganda for so long may be because some elements of the party, like Fretilin, are leftist.

But the question now is whether the Australian parliamentary delegation, and particularly the members from the Labor Party, will be able to counterbalance and overcome the propaganda being circulated in Australia by a Fretilin delegation that went there while the parliamentary delegation was in Indonesia. Prime Minister Bob Hawke would not receive the Fretilin delegation, and the other ministers were instructed not to receive it. Even so, the Fretilin people did lobby the leaders of the Labor Party, particularly those on the extreme left.

Basically, we are not concerned about whether or not Australia accepts the integration of East Timor into Indonesian territory, since this is an internal affair of our country. However, since Australia is a neighbor, and recalling

the old proverb that a good neighbor is worth more than a distant comrade, then we hope that Australia will come to its senses before it is too late, particularly since the members of the parliamentary delegation have seen for themselves the facts of the situation in East Timor.

5458

CSO: 4213/569

FOREIGN BANKS ALLEGEDLY ENGAGE IN ILLEGAL OPERATIONS

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 1 Aug 83 pp 1, 12

[Excerpt] Managers of private banks meeting in Surabaya have complained, and I Nyoman Moena, the head of the Association of Private National Banks (PERBANAS) has confirmed, that many foreign banks are engaging in illegal operations in the provinces. Some of these foreign banks have branches in Jakarta and some do not.

I Nyoman Moena said that the government has permitted only 10 foreign banks to open branch offices in Jakarta. These banks are prohibited from operating outside Jakarta, unless they do so in cooperation with a private bank.

He said that the foreign banks are operating illegally in the provinces as a result of the government's adoption of the free foreign exchange (devisa bebas) policy.

At a meeting with members of the East Java chapter of PERBANAS at the Hyatt Hotel, I Nyoman Moena said that Bank Indonesia itself is unable to control the distribution of capital by the foreign banks and that the private bankers should understand that the excesses that are occurring are difficult to prevent.

"However, if a PERBANAS member has factual information he should pass it on to Bank Indonesia, for Bank Indonesia is looking for this kind of information," he said.

In response to a question from a PERBANAS member, the Surabaya coordinator for Bank Indonesia, Dewa Nyoman Gunawan, admitted that the amount of credit that is being illegally distributed in East Java by foreign banks cannot be determined.

5458

CSO: 4213/569

EAST JAVA MOTHERS DO NOT HAVE TO PAY FOR STERILIZATION

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 10 Aug 83 p 2

[Text] Mothers in East Java who want to be sterilized do not have to worry about the cost because the provincial government will allocate 25 million rupiah from its annual budget for this purpose.

The governor of East Java made this decision after hearing the complaints of a number of women in the Nganjuk area who want to be sterilized.

The cost of the operation is 13,000 rupiah. The National Family Planning Coordination Agency (BKKBN) puts up 6,250 rupiah of this amount and the patient is responsible for the balance. The women had asked the governor to reduce the amount they would have to pay, but the governor, after consulting with his staff, decided that the East Java provincial government should pay all of the balance.

This happened on Tuesday when the governor was on a working visit to the subdistrict of Driyorejo in Gresik. The governor said that while the government promoted the use of IUDs, condoms, pills and injections, sterilization was not part of its family planning program. Even so, he said, if mothers want to be sterilized then the government will see that it is done.

5458

CSO: 4213/569

FIFTY PERCENT REDUCTION IN BIRTH RATE ANTICIPATED

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 22 Aug 83 p 2

[Text] According to Drs Amiril M. Ahmad of the program management section in the East Java office of the National Family Planning Coordination Agency (BKKBN), it is anticipated that through the family planning program the population birth rate in East Java can be reduced to 50 percent of the 1971 birth rate by 1990.

Drs Amiril made this optimistic statement after reviewing the progress that has been made in East Java. A total of 71,987 new acceptors had been registered as of May, and the cumulative total through June was 114,456. This is 12.53 percent of the 1984 target of 913,497 new acceptors.

Meanwhile, Nono Sumarto, BE of the family planning section of the East Java BKKBN has announced that as of April there were 3,269,178 permanent participants in the family planning program. This is 64.84 percent of the total number of fertile couples in East Java.

A total of 73,024 participants in the family planning program have opted for sterilization. Many of these operations have been performed in the cities of Surabaya, Madiun and Banyuwangi, and it is hoped that eventually they will be performed in all cities in East Java. The operation can be performed in any general hospital but at the present time most of the operations are being performed in urban areas.

The injection method of birth control is being used by 100,473 participants.

Program participants who elect to be sterilized are referred to the Department of Health by the BKKBN, however it is possible that the BKKBN itself may eventually provide this service.

5458

CSO: 4213/569

COOPERATION OF ASEAN YOUNG PEOPLE IMPORTANT

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 8 Aug 83 p 6

[Editorial: "ASEAN Is in Good Health"]

[Text] Today marks the 16th anniversary of the founding of ASEAN.

There is no denying that this organization for regional cooperation has achieved a healthy growth and is an effective organization. Internally it has cultivated a spirit of togetherness and developed a far-reaching and mutually beneficial system of cooperation, and externally it commands the respect of the world community in general. ASEAN's role and strength are taken into consideration by others. It already has some ability to block the negative influences of foreign powers, which is why the region remains relatively free of direct manipulation by the super powers. And it is believed that the cohesiveness and rapid economic growth of ASEAN is the reason that the domino theory of communist (Vietnamese) expansion has not been realized.

The political influence of this organization for economic and cultural cooperation is considered to be one of its more prominent characteristics. Perhaps this is not surprising, for whether we like it or not the fact is that politics decides many matters, and many political issues--such as the Cambodian problem--are forced on ASEAN from the outside, and wisdom compels us to seek political togetherness in the interest of economic and other forms of cooperation.

A recent decision of ASEAN is of considerable importance. We refer to the agreement to promote cooperative activities among the young people of ASEAN. This was the right decision to make in guaranteeing the continuity of ASEAN's spirit of unity, in ensuring the future stability of ASEAN, and as regards the transfer of authority from one generation to the next.

It is clear that no matter how efficient the mechanisms of ASEAN become, the ASEAN spirit must continue to be cultivated and strengthened and the young people of ASEAN must be the main target of this effort. Long live ASEAN.

5458

CSO: 4213/569

NO STANDARD POLICY ON WEARING VEILS AT SCHOOL

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 9 Aug 83 p 2

[Text] Drs Soegijo, the head of the East Java zone office of the Department of Education and Culture, has said that although the wearing of veils occurred again at one or two schools at the beginning of the 1983/84 school year, none of the schools in East Java that are supervised by the Department of Education and Culture use veils as part of the school uniform. Drs Soegijo was questioned on this subject by a reporter yesterday afternoon at the Petra secondary school, where he officiated at the dedication of a new building.

He said that school uniform codes are covered in presidential and ministerial regulations and conform with the law and tradition. He noted that about 2 years ago a student at an upper secondary school in Jember had worn a veil. She returned to the standard practice after she was approached on the subject, he said.

He added that regulations regarding uniforms are part of the discipline that each student must accept, and that teachers must set a good example if they are to enforce discipline. Sanctions will be taken against students if they break the rules, he said.

No Single Uniform

Meanwhile, a member of the staff of the East Java zone office of the Department of Religious Affairs said that the department's regulations on the wearing of uniforms were of a general nature, that is, the regulations vary from one school to another and one area to another.

He said that Muslim schools still have no single uniform, and noted that the students at the Muslim upper secondary schools in Surabaya and Jombang wear uniforms of different design although the color is the same. He said that at a working meeting of the zone office that was held in Malang from 23 to 27 July it was decided that the uniforms would be standardized to conform to religious norms.

He noted that students at public schools in West Sumatra are required to wear veils to conform to local custom. No such regulation has been issued in East Java, he said, because local custom varies here.

Flexibility

Drs Marsekan Fatawi, the rector of the Sunan Ampel Islamic State Institute, feels that there is no need for students who wear veils to be assigned to special schools. He also feels that a uniform model of the veil should be adopted, a model that provides good coverage of the head and has both practical and esthetic value. He says that wearing the veil will at least reduce behavioral problems. Although even a student who wears the veil can misbehave, the veil is a material means of reducing misbehavior, he said.

He feels that while the regulations on this subject are good and positive, they should be more flexible so their enforcement does not create unrest and disturbances. Clothing influences conduct, he said. He noted that formerly many students in public schools in Yogyakarta and elsewhere wore veils, and that some of them eventually became professors and continued to wear the veil. He feels that the important thing now is to return to the problem of the image created by the Indonesian woman, particularly at this time when we are engrossed in discussions of juvenile morality. He also warned against creating problems by assigning students who wear veils to special schools, although he does feel that they can be grouped together if this does not disturb order in the school. The thing that is needed here is a sincere dialogue and flexibility, he said.

5458

CSO: 4213/569

VEIL REQUIRED IN SURABAYA MUHAMMADIYAH HIGH SCHOOL

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 31 Aug 83 p 2

[Article: "Female Muhammadiyah Students Don the Veil Tomorrow"]

[Text] The Muhammadiyah Senior High School in Surabaya has decided that female students must wear a veil as part of the school uniform beginning tomorrow, 1 September. Whether the ruling will be carried out the same in Sidoarjo or Malang as it is in Surabaya will depend on the situations at the respective schools.

The decision regarding the veil was issued by the leadership of the East Java Muhammadiyah Education, Training and Culture Committee. All students and parents are requested to obey the order.

Sueb, the principal of the Muhammadiyah I Senior High School on Kapasan Street, said the decision regarding the veil is directed toward the goal of Muhammadiyah education which is to create human beings of good character, capable of and self-confident in being useful to their nation and their religion. Wearing the veil means the Muhammadiyah would like to create a muslim atmosphere and a Muslim identity.

Other than covering the girls' nakedness, veils can lessen or eliminate student mischief. Veiled students act differently than do unveiled students. Veil wearing is charismatic and reflects a neatness that causes others not annoy them, Sueb said.

Complaints

Sueb admitted that there have been complaints from a few students about the new ruling. He is convinced they will eventually obey the ruling when they become aware of its benefits.

Some Muslim girls already wear the veil as part of the school uniform. Moreover, some new students at the Muhammadiyah Teachers Training Institute also wear veils, he added.

Students at the Muhammadiyah Senior High School on Kapasan Street need not buy their veils from the school but may make them themselves. The school advances the students 750 rupiahs per veil which they may repay in installments.

Actually many of the girls like the ruling. They like using veils because their womanliness can be covered during school, and because it makes the young men reluctant to accost them. One Muhammadiyah Senior High School girl had the following experience: a young man approached and tried to amorously entice her; when he saw the veil the most he could say was: "Assalamu alaikum [peace be unto you]..."

Unlike her friends who do not wear veils, she has always worn a veil ever since she first entered the Muhammadiyah high school. She became more and more sensitive about the boys who said, "Assalamu alaikum" to her on the way to or from school.

She has continued to wear her veil both in and out of class. Despite these teasings, junior and senior high school students apparently feel there is prestige in wearing a jacket bearing the school or OSIS [possibly an Islamic School Organization] emblem. When the jacket is worn outside of school, the emblem, which may either be glued or buttoned on the jacket, can easily be removed.

6804

CSO: 4213/571

GOVERNMENT URGED TO INCREASE TIME FOR ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 2 Sep 83 p 1

[Article: "Results of National Conference of Muslim Preachers: Increase Time Provided for Study of the Muslim Religion; Teaching Community Ready to Fight Against Poverty and Ignorance"]

[Text] Jakarta, PELITA--The Community of Religious Teachers and Preachers [Jamaah Ittihadul Muballighin] has appealed to the government, and more specifically to the minister of education and culture, to increase the time spent on the study of Islam in both public and private schools, from kindergarten to university.

The request for an increase in study time was expressed in the results of the First Conference of Religious Teachers and Preachers (Ittihad), which were read on Wednesday evening [31 August] at the Granadha Building. This occasion was used at the same time as a closing ceremony for the First National Conference and for the Fifth Assembly of Religious Teachers [Milad Ittihad].

The other decisions of the National Conference stated that the entire community of religious teachers supports the government in wiping out corruption and narcotics crime; would support, if necessary, firm action against both narcotics abusers and traffickers; and, where needed, the death penalty.

In addition the conclusions of the First National Conference call on the government to include Arabic language lessons on TVRI [Indonesian Television Service] telecasts at least twice a week. This is because 90 percent of the Indonesian people are Muslims, and Arabic is an international language.

Ready to Apply the Pancasila

It was also stated that the entire community of religious teachers is prepared to support and apply the Pancasila [Five Principles of the Nation] and the Constitution of 1945 in the framework of the development of the entire Indonesian nation, with the blessings of Allah.

The community of religious teachers is also prepared to work together with the government and other Islamic organizations to fight against poverty,

ignorance, and misery. In a kind of missionary effort, the religious teachers are also prepared to help to translate the national development program into action.

The First National Conference of Religious Teachers and Preachers began on 28 August, when it was opened by H. Alamsyah, coordinating minister for social welfare, and was closed by H. Munawir Syadzali, minister of religion. Attending the closing ceremony were K. H. Masykur; K. H. Syukron Makmua, chairman of the Assembly of Indonesian Muslim Scholars [Majelis Ulama Indonesia]; K. H. Syukri Gozali, Saudi Arabian ambassador; Prof Osman Raliby; and Muslim preachers and other Islamic leaders.

Not a Secular State

H. Munawir Syadzali, the minister of religion, in his speech on this occasion, declared that the Pancasila state is not a secular state. He said that no one could deny that the Islamic religion led the way in the struggle for independence. He added: "Therefore, it is logical that the Islamic religion should also play a role in the present world of development."

With Muslims accounting for almost 90 percent of the people, the minister hoped that the Islamic community would act as a responsible majority and not complain and not always act as if haunted by the feeling that it is a community under attack.

Regarding the conclusions of the national conference, the minister of religion welcomed them. He said that at this time a list is being prepared of cooperative action to be taken between his ministry and the Ministries of Education and Culture and Information.

Meanwhile, K. H. Syaikh, the general chairman of the National Conference of Religious Teachers and Preachers, underlined the need for a movement to ensure the payment of religious taxes [zakat]. He suggested that such a movement could be financed with a portion of the religious taxes, which are estimated to total about 16.5 billion rupiahs. If only 0.5 percent of the 130 million Muslims in Indonesia would meet their obligations, the religious tax would be fully collected.

In his opinion it is necessary for the Islamyah missionary movement to go hand in hand with the education movement, so that we can train teachers who are able to express the goodness and the wisdom in the teachings of Islam.

5170

CSO: 4213/5

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

EDITORIAL DEPLORES AQUINO ASSASSINATION--The Indonesian Foreign Affairs Ministry has issued a statement expressing great regret over the assassination of Philippine opposition leader, Benigno Aquino. The statement also expresses the hope that the Philippine Government will make a thorough investigation of the matter so that everything involved in this political association becomes clear. The official government statement perhaps is extraordinary considering that this is an internal matter of the Philippines, a fellow member of ASEAN. This affair, the statement says, has made an impact on the international community and has touched the hearts of practically all human beings. As an expression of Indonesia's principles based on Pancasila humanitarianism, the Foreign Affairs Ministry's statement is important and represents our democratic opposition to political assassination and terrorism in politics. It is important that this be known, both outside and inside the country as a confirmation, as a guide, and as a reminder. With this confirmation that expresses the sentiments of all of us, it is hoped that the Indonesian people will remain calm while the investigation is being carried out in Manila and, that they will remain calm and focus on their own development and safety under Pancasila. This will ensure political stability and keep acts of violence from our politics. [Text] [Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 29 Aug 83 p 6] 6804

COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR APPROVED--The Indonesian Government has approved the appointment of Antonio Mallona Ortiz as the new Colombian ambassador to Indonesia, succeeding Dr Norberto Morales Ballesteros. "Before his accreditation to Indonesia, Dr Antonio Mallona Ortiz was Colombian ambassador and plenipotential minister to Iran." [Summary] [BK111649 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 9 Sep 83]

INCREASE IN SCANDINAVIAN TRADE--Minister of Foreign Affairs Mochtar Kusumaatmadja has stated that the Scandinavian countries have provided assurances that they will continue to abstain on the East Timor question at the United Nations General Assembly session in September. He said: "Indeed, they did not state that they would support Indonesia, but by assuring us that they would abstain, this means they will not support the side that is against Indonesia." He said this at Halim Perdanakusuma airport on Friday afternoon [3 September] on his return from a visit to the Scandinavian countries (Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Denmark) and to Geneva. According to Minister of Foreign Affairs Mochtar, the objective of his trip was to increase trade and economic relations with those countries. This was closely related to the attitude of the government over the last several years, that is, a desire to increase trade and economic relations with countries which still don't have extensive economic relations with Indonesia. He said that in the past Indonesia sought trade relationships with countries with which it already had close relations, such as Japan, the U.S., the Netherlands, and others. Mochtar said: "Recently, a number of countries have begun to trade with us, including Spain, Austria, and Finland." Speaking in broad terms, the minister of foreign affairs mentioned the subjects he discussed during his trip. These included bilateral, regional, and global questions. In addition, he discussed the latest developments in connection with the East Timor and Kampuchean questions. In the economic sphere he also discussed the North-South dialogue, relations between ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations] and the EEC, and the possibility of cooperation between ASEAN and the Nordic Council. [Text] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 3 Sep 83 p 9] 5170

LOAN FOR SUGAR MILL--The World Bank has granted a \$79.2 million loan for construction of a sugar mill in South Kalimantan with a capacity of 50,000 tons per year and with a sugarcane growing area of 12,400 hectares. This was announced by the World Bank on Thursday [1 September]. The sugar project in South Kalimantan as a whole is estimated at \$130.4 million and is intended to reduce sugar imports and develop the sugar industry's technical and processing capacities, which will be used in the national development program in the sugar sector. Indonesia was once known as the largest sugar exporting country in the world. However, since World War II Indonesian sugar production has declined because of the destruction of sugar mills and the conversion of sugarcane fields into rice fields. Indonesian sugar imports in 1982 amounted to 700,000 tons. The sugar industry project in South Kalimantan, it is hoped, will reduce sugar imports by 7 percent. In addition, the project will provide a livelihood to 5,000 farming families and jobs to about 3,000 people. Five years from now, about the middle of 1988, the South Kalimantan project will be expanded to include the central plantation system project at Pelaihari, South Kalimantan, which covers 12,400 hectares. The area of the central plantation itself is 4,600 hectares, which includes test fields and seed beds. The area planted by individual farmers covers about 7,800 hectares. At the central plantation a sugar mill will be built which will have a capacity of 40,000 tons of sugar per day [as published; probably should read per year]. About 170 kilometers of road and a bridge will be built or repaired, and workers' housing, a drinking water system, rice fields, and village infrastructure will also be constructed. [Text] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 3 Sep 83 p 1] 5170

MALAYSIA

PROPOSED RATIO FOR APPORTIONING ELECTION DISTRICTS VIEWED

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 4 Aug 83 p 2

[Commentary]

[Text] Work on the apportionment of nationwide election districts, including the addition of 20 parliamentary election districts, will be completed by end of July next year.

Both ruling and opposition parties have voiced their opinions on this issue of election district apportionment.

Wee Chiu Kui, an M.P. representing Angtokan constituency, maintained that the ideal apportionment should be based on the 60:30:10 ratio, that is to say, in peninsular Malaysia where Malay voters form the majority, they should occupy 60 percent, Chinese voters should occupy 30 percent and Indian voters 10 percent. Chinese voters should occupy 30 percent and Indian voters 10 percent. By the same token, in areas where the Chinese form the majority, they should occupy 50 percent. Malay voters 30 percent and Indian voters 10 percent.

This is a rather constructive proposal, because if an electoral district is based on this 50:30:10 ratio, it will help lower the emergence of racism and extremism. If a political party and its candidates want to get a foothold in such an election district, they must win the support of all nationalities there, and not just one racial constituency. And if they resort to extremism or racism as their political capital, they are bound to fail.

Such an electoral district apportionment would gradually steer our country's political structure away from a classification by race, but lead it toward the road of multinationalism, which would be considerably significant to our state and people.

On the other hand, the existing structure of electoral districts is not fair to urban voters, because they can vote for only one parliamentary member in an electoral district comprising 50,000 to 100,000 voters. Yet, in the rural areas, 20,000 to 30,000 voters are already sufficient to vote for one parliamentary member. Naturally, this is an issue that has become a topic of argument.

From the government viewpoint, it can be argued that urban dwellers enjoy greater amenities than rural inhabitants through better roads, water and electricity supplies, communications and public facilities. Moreover, city people enjoy the most modern conveniences, leaving the countryfolk far behind. There is a point in this argument.

We think that Wee Chiu Kui's suggestion is rather original and it may be acceptable to the authorities to be put into practice in certain election districts.

9300

CSO: 4205/20

MALAYSIA

IMPORTANT MISSION OF PRIME MINISTER'S TRIP TO KOREA

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 9 Aug 83 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir flew to Seoul yesterday to begin a 1-week state visit, whose purpose is to strive for cooperation in economic development between Malaysia and South Korea.

Ever since the prime minister advanced the "learn from the East" concept, the government has viewed South Korea as a main target for our learning and at the same time has intensified Malaysia-South Korean cooperation in the field of economy and technical aid.

After the Korean civil war, South Korea devoted its full energy to the development of its national economic reconstruction, particularly in heavy industries. Its great achievements, which are worth our emulation, have turned the country into a heavy industrial, powerful nation in Asia, particularly in the construction industry.

In recent years South Korea's investment in our country has been concentrated in construction enterprises. Many South Korean contractors are engaged in building engineering projects in our country, such as roads, bridges, power plants, etc. Through their investment we have learned the technology of the construction industry.

As a matter of fact, South Korea has several other well-developed industries which are worth our learning, such as the processed rubber and wood-based industries.

Consequently, one of the prime minister's aims in visiting Seoul is to strengthen further the technological cooperation between the two countries, for instance, by encouraging South Korea to increase its investment and technical personnel training in our country. Through this kind of cooperation we hope to gain some technical experience.

With respect to trade, in the past we annually imported large quantities of South Korean machinery, electronic products and textiles, while our exports of

finished goods to South Korea were negligible. However, the volume of the two-way trade has been on the rise in the past 2 years, and the trade gap has been narrowed gradually.

When Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam visited South Korea last September, he proposed that Malaysia and South Korea carry out joint enterprises and technical cooperation. At the same time, he requested South Korea to import more petroleum, palm oil, rubber, tin and other raw materials from us.

At any rate, Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir's visit to Seoul carried a great responsibility, principally to prompt the expansion of economic cooperation between Malaysia and South Korea, because this would give aid to our economic growth and to the attainment of our new economic goal of industrial development.

9300

CSO: 4206/21

MALAYSIA

PURPOSE OF PRIME MINISTER'S TRIP TO KOREA EXAMINED

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 10 Aug 83 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] On 8 August, Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir, accompanied by Minister Datuk Abdullah of the Prime Minister's Department and other senior officials, began his 8-day official visit to Korea.

The trip highlights the Mahathir administration's two new aspects--the policy of "learn from the East" and the concept of government-private joint enterprise--as evidenced by the presence of Minister Abdullah, who is in charge of the "learn from the East" policy, and 30 entrepreneurial representatives in the prime minister's entourage.

Ever since the establishment of diplomatic exchanges between Malaysia and South Korea in 1960, the relationship has developed rapidly. In recent years, the top leaders have visited each other's country, bringing the two countries even closer. In 1966, the late President Park Chung Hee paid a state visit here, which was reciprocated by our head of state in April of the same year. This was followed by more visitations to Seoul by our former Prime Minister Hussein Onn, Deputy Prime Minister Musa Hitam and the present head of state one after the other. Not long after his inauguration, South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan also paid us a state visit. All these diplomatic activities have added new motility to the development of Malaysia-Korean relationship.

Particularly amid our promotion of the "learn from the East" policy, South Korea, which deservedly may feel proud of its economic development results, has become a target for our learning. We are even more eager to absorb some valuable experience from South Korean advanced technology. Consequently, we firmly believe that the prime minister's trip will bring about a great effect on our forthcoming economic development and at the same time will strengthen further Malaysia-Korean economic cooperation in the days to come.

In trade matters, we traditionally occupy a favorable position. According to last year's statistics, our exports to South Korea totaled \$610 million, while our imports were valued at \$234 million. However, the trend for the coming few years may result in an unfavorable balance for our country,

because at present South Korean products and services are coming in at a fast rate. As a matter of fact, South Korea is not only a highly competitive supplier of industrial equipment and facilities, but also can occupy a superior position in its exports of finished products, thanks to its investment in joint ventures within our country. This is amply proven by the figure released by our Ministry of Trade and Industry. Until September 1983, 13 South Korean companies have pushed forward development projects worth M\$222 million in our country. This does not include the plan to construct a M\$180 million cement plant in Perak State and another to build a M\$92 million shipbuilding yard in Johore State. It may be predicted that two-way trade between Malaysia and South Korea will reach an equilibrium in the long run.

Apart from seeking to further strengthen our economic cooperation and to obtain great investment for heavy industry in our country, Prime Minister Mahathir will also hold discussions with South Korean leaders on some important political subjects, the most conspicuous of which is how to urge South Korea to further improve its relationship with the ASEAN countries. In the wake of discussions between the two leaders, it is believed that South Korea's hope--that it be regarded as a target for ASEAN's dialogues--will stand a better chance of realization.

As to the question of unification between South Korea and North Korea, which President Chun Doo Hwan is paying close attention to, and his proposal for a summit conference among Pacific Basin countries, it is believed that he will get a favorable reaction from our prime minister.

9300

CSO: 4205/21

PM'S TRIP TO KOREA TERMED SUCCESSFUL

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 15 Aug 83 p 2

/Editorial/

/Text/ The joint Malaysian-Korean Communique, issued at the conclusion of talks between Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir and President Chun Goo Hwan, clearly reflects the rich fruits reaped from the prime minister's visit to Korea.

In the economic field, the South Korean leader promised full cooperation to make our "learn from the East" policy successful. Indeed, Korea constitutes a principal target for this policy. Furthermore, Korean private circles are taking part in our development work which, judging by the present standards, is of no small scale. Now that President Chun has promised to continue encouraging private entrepreneurs to plunge, under the present foundations, into our construction projects, basic engineering projects and energy exploration development, we can foresee more spectacular results to be achieved in the field of economic cooperation between the two countries.

What should be stressed is that our "learn from the East policy" basically advocates mutually beneficial economic cooperation. On the one hand, this policy enables Korea to occupy a relatively advantageous position in expanding her Malaysian market; on the other hand, it accelerates our steps toward industrialization through investment and the transfer of advanced technology. The prime minister pointed out this very point in Seoul the other day. Not only did he propose that Korea transfer its labor-intensive, low-technology industries to Malaysia, but also pointed out convincingly that such arrangement would play an exemplary role to developing countries and prove that Third World countries can also develop their economies through mutual help and cooperation, instead of begging advanced nations for succor. Already, even while our Prime Minister was still visiting the country, Korean private circles reached one agreement after the other with our country to aid our production of intravenous liquids and Freon gas, and of formaldehyde and adhesive resin through joint enterprises, etc. Furthermore, the Korea Shipbuilding Company expressed its intention of initiating a joint operation in heavy industry and its hope of taking part in our shipbuilding industry in a more vigorous manner. All these foretell a glorious future for Malaysian-Korean economic cooperation.

In particular, the agreement signed on 10 August exempting businessmen and tourists of one country from passports and visas when visiting the other will definitely strengthen and expand further the economic relationship between the two countries.

In the field of politics, the views of both countries' leaders showed uniformity on a great number of issues. The action plan drawn up at the Asia Regional Conference on the Palestine problem last May was approved by President Chun; ASEAN's stand on the Kampuchea problem, that is, that the problem should be solved through the declaration of the international conference on the Kumpuchea problem and other related United Nations resolutions, also gained the support of the Korean president. In addition, both countries also appealed to all parties concerned to speedily seek a plan to solve the Afghanistan problem on the basis of United Nations' resolutions.

With respect to international economic problem, the common ground adopted by Malaysia and Korea carries great significance. Both Prime Minister Mahathir and President Chun Doo Hwan appealed for the convening of an international economic cooperation conference and stressed the necessity of turning back the trend toward protectionism as a precondition for reviving world economic vitality. The facts have proven that by erecting high tariff walls, advanced countries not only have created numerous dangers to international trade, but also dealt a serious blow to the economic development of Third World countries. It stands to reason that Third World countries should emulate the joint stand of Malaysia and Korea and tightly join hands together to break through this generally disadvantageous situation.

9300

CSO: 4205/22

MALAYSIA

MINISTER ASSURES FREEDOM OF NON-MUSLIM RELIGIONS

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 15 Aug 83 p 3

/Text/ Anwar Ibrahim, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, stressed today that incorporating Islamic values into the government policies by no means signifies that the government is prepared to wipe out other religious activities.

He indicated that in promoting its policy, the government still permits other religions to freely develop their activities.

He said: "They also have the opportunity to participate in some realms related to Islam, such as Moslem and international Moslem universities."

Minister Anwar Ibrahim is also head of the Malay Youth League. It was in this capacity that he made the above remarks at the opening ceremony today of a "Toward the Goal of Incorporating Islamic Values into the Government Administration" forum organized by the Bureau of Religious Affairs of the Pasing Bay Branch of the United Malays National Organization /UMNO/.

The minister said that the government's principal aim in promoting this movement is to make the Moslem community, especially the Malay society, more progressive and more disciplined.

He maintained that the Moslem community may follow all the developments in the modernistic way of life, but Islamic characteristics must be safeguarded more than ever before.

9300

CSO: 4205/22

MALAYSIA

CIVIC LEADER CALLS ON CHINESE TO KEEP SUPPORTING MCA

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 8 Aug 83 p 3

[Text] Datuk Mak Hon Kam, acting vice president of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA], said that this political party has become quite stable and is getting more powerful by the day. "The Chinese community should keep supporting and trusting it so we can play our role fully."

He added that the MCA is continuously unfolding its activities to give greater contributions to ethnic-Chinese citizens and that no sabotage is permitted against MCA's stability and Chinese long-term interests.

Datuk Mak, who is labor minister, made these remarks while addressing at the opening ceremony of Perak MCA' Women Section Conference in Ipoh today.

He continued: "I realize that among us here many came from different social strata and possibly different education, background and surroundings, and that these factors are likely to create differing outlooks on a certain value concept and political behavior or to hold different starting points concerning the implementation of major principles."

Datuk Mak held that the MCA is a party that not only carries out its collective leadership for concerted action among its membership, but also maintains party order and discipline. "We cannot ignore the fact that the MCA has pushed forward many political policies to give direction to the Chinese masses in jointly realizing our political ideals."

He added that MCA's political strength had not been mustered in a day, but through contributions from long years of struggle by our many members. "If we want to maintain our driving force to give greater contributions to the Chinese people, we must discard personal prejudices and abide by party discipline."

Datuk Mak appealed to the Perak MCA's Women Section to give full support to the party in order to consolidate its political power. He also congratulated the conference chairperson, Goh Lian Hong, for having won an election in a complex, Chinese-dominated electoral district. "This shows that today's Chinese community has accepted women's participation in politics. This has opened up a new road for political participation by Perak's womenfolk, thanks to the effort of Ms Goh and membership of the Perak MCA's Women Section, which was founded only a few years ago," he concluded.

9300

CSO: 4205/20

DAP LEADER CITES UMNO'S LACK OF RESPECT FOR MCA

Salangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 15 Aug 83 p 2

/Text/ Lim Kit Siang, M.P., secretary general of the Democratic Action Party /DAP/, declared in Seremban tonight that in fact the Malaysian Chinese Association /MCA/ gets no respect from the United Malays National Organization /UMNO/. He cited five reasons to prove his point.

In a lengthy keynote speech delivered at a huge banquet marking the opening of DAP's Seremban branch, Mr Lim said: "The MCA boasted that it is the representative party and political spokesman for the Chinese nationals, and /MCA Vice President/ Neo Yee Pan bragged that he has won the trust of the Chinese people. As a matter of fact, the MCA has never gained the confidence of the Chinese, and has even lost UMNO's respect."

Mr Lim put forward five reasons as follows:

Reason No 1: Qualitywise, MCA's leaders are not to be compared with UMNO's. This can be seen from the statement of MCA's and UMNO's ministers before Parliament. MCA's leaders dare not respond to the questions or problems brought up by parliamentary members, but refer them to their deputy ministers or vice ministers in charge of governmental affairs because they are scared of being faced with additional verbal interpellations, which could make them speechless out of ignorance about the subject under discussion. On the other hand, UMNO ministers dare to answer or face the problems squarely.

Reason No 2: Compared with their UMNO's counterparts, parliamentary members representing the MCA are disappointing in performing their duties. UMNO members in Parliament would stand up briskly and express their views vigorously, fighting for the political demands of the National Front and particularly of their own party. Consequently, during the parliamentary debates on constitutional amendment last week an UMNO representative bluntly stated that the current electoral district allocation system, which guarantees the Malays' political superiority in Parliament, cannot be overturned, because such system has become the foundation for the UMNO and the National Front government. Is there any MCA member in Parliament who dares to present a differing view on this matter?

Reason No 3: Compared with UMNO cabinet ministers', the performance of MCA's leaders sitting in the cabinet is saddening. A good case in point concerned the Chinese Cultural Memorandum which was accepted by a national conference of 15 Chinese organizations and the Federation of Chinese School Trustees and Teachers held in Penang on 27 March 1983. This memorandum gave rise to high hopes among the Chinese nationals throughout the land, believing that Malaysian culture would not be created on the basis of Malay culture, but would incorporate all kinds of culture found in the country, in line with the spirit of the National Cultural Congress in 1971.

In an effort to create a favorable impression among the Chinese community, the MCA publicly announced its support to this Chinese Cultural Memorandum through its Deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Datin Chew Poh King.

However, this Chinese memorandum was summarily rejected by the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports even before it was tabled to the cabinet for deliberations, on the grounds that it obstructs the unity of the people and the interests of the nation.

Reason No 4: Unlike MCA's leaders, the leaders of UMNO are not afraid of facing a by-election. When Tengku Abdul Rahman and Tun Hussein Onn stepped down as prime minister and UMNO chairman respectively, the new leaders of this party never sought any pretext to escape a by-election in their parliamentary district. By contrast, when Datuk Lee San Choon retired as MCA's president and relinquished his parliamentary constituency, this party refused to hold a by-election in Seremban. So how can the MCA expect to get the respect of the UMNO?

Reason No 5: UMNO leaders like Dr Mahathir, Datuk Musa Hitam, Tengku Pazaleigh and others do not need MCA's votes to retain their seats in Parliament. On the other hand, practically all MCA leaders must rely on UMNO's votes to win their seats.

It is no wonder that during the recent debates on constitutional amendment, only one member of parliament named Wee Chiu Kui, who represented the MCA, put forward a proposal saying that no electoral district can legally exist if more than 60 percent of the voters in it are composed of Chinese nationals. MCA leaders know that the UMNO can wrest victory in an electoral district in which more than 60 percent of the voters are Malay, but a district where more than 60 percent of the voters are Chinese can spell disaster to MCA leaders.

9300

CSO: 4205/22

WAYS FOR CHINESE TO UNITE THEMSELVES DISCUSSED

Salangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 15 Aug 83 p 2

/Commentary/

/Text/ Deputy Prime Minister Musa Hitam once again stressed the significance of Malay unity in a speech before a big meeting of the Perak United Malays National Organization /UMNO/ yesterday. He said that the success in fighting imperialism and gaining independence in 1957, as well as in resisting communism and its threats, was attributed to the tight front of Malay unity.

For this reason, he said, unity is most important to the Malays and carries a great significance, too.

He said that if the UMNO were not strong and powerful, not only the position of the Malays and the fate of their descendants throughout the land would be affected, but our nation's political stability would be threatened as well.

The deputy prime minister's speech has explained that only through Malay solidarity under the banner of the UMNO can the Malays safeguard their position and the fate of their next generation. History has proven this point.

While the UMNO leader is stressing the necessity of Malay unity, there is no harm for us to bring forward the question of Chinese unity. Solidarity among the Malays is beneficial to the nation's political stability. By the same token, solidarity among the Chinese is of course beneficial to political stability, too.

The question before us is that there has never been political unity among the Chinese. While the Malays are becoming more united, the Chinese are becoming less united.

We must find out the ultimate source of trouble why the Chinese have not been able to unite themselves in politics ever since we became independent 26 years ago.

Perhaps one of the stumbling blocks is that up till this moment the Chinese have not found one general line covering politics, economy, culture and education. Such a general line can be transformed into one thought and one doctrine for the Chinese community to adhere to.

To reach this general line, we can make in-depth studies and hold symposiums through various political parties, mass organizations, commercial groups, academic institutions and scholarly circles on the basis of past historical factors, present realities and future developments.

Under the democratic system, it is impossible to attain a 100 percent unity, but we should abide by the principle that the minority must follow the majority.

If the Chinese, who represent 38 percent of Malaysia's population, cannot muster up an effective unity, we can elaborate on the Deputy Prime Minister's word by saying that the absence of such unity would affect the Chinese position and the fate of their next generations, as well as the nation's political stability.

9300

CSO: 4205/22

MALAYSIA

MISSION OF CHINESE SCHOOLS DISCUSSED IN SEMINAR

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 6 Aug 83 p 2

[Commentary]

[Text] The Third National Chinese Independent Middle School Administrators Seminar was held at Cameron Highlands from 31 July through 2 August.

According to a series of resolutions adopted on 16 December 1976 concerning the mission of Chinese schools,

1. a basic education comprises 12 years of study in primary and secondary schools, and Chinese independent middle schools constitute the Chinese-language education to realize this basic education;
2. Chinese independent middle schools form the continuation of Chinese primary schools and also serve as an essential bridge for further studies in colleges and universities,
3. six years of primary schooling is not enough to safeguard and develop the extensive and profound Chinese culture, and this goal can be reached only through Chinese independent middle schools;
4. independent Chinese middle schools must teach three different languages to absorb the essentials of domestic and foreign cultures to be molded into a Malaysian culture.

The above four tasks have been amended and passed by the present seminar to read as follows:

1. a basic education comprises 12 years of study in primary and secondary schools, and Chinese independent middle schools constitute the Chinese-language education to realize this basic education and also to cultivate national construction talents for our country;
2. an independent Chinese middle schools system is a phase in the evolutionary process from Chinese primary schooling to higher studies in colleges and universities, as well as for getting employment.

3. six years of primary school is not enough to safeguard, continue and develop Chinese culture, and we must use Chinese middle schools as a fortress to cultivate the next generation to have a basic understanding of the Chinese culture, or else we would not be able to reach our goal.

4. independent Chinese middle schools must teach three different languages so the students may have a fundamental knowledge of various cultures in our country and, furthermore, absorb the essentials of domestic and foreign cultures to be blended into a new Malaysian culture.

These amendments are merely rhetoric and basically do not change the basic policies and tasks.

With respect to guiding principles on how to run a school, the seminar stressed that we must not set the passing of a government exam as our target. We may teach technical and vocational subjects, but we must not change our schools into purely technical or vocational schools. Chinese middle schools aim at teaching general, all-round knowledge, but not specialized subjects, to its students.

A number of seminar delegates pointed out that apart from basic education, Chinese middle schools should pay attention to technological and student employment problems.

It is an undeniable fact that the lebensraum of Chinese middle school graduates is getting narrower, and there is hardly any room for expansion. The hopes and prospects of the Chinese society are pinned on whether Chinese youths can get good education. This is a crucial matter affecting the future of Chinese nationals. Chinese education must not only maintain the moral standards of the Chinese community, but also enrich our ethnic Chinese youths with modern technology.

Apart from the tasks mentioned above, Chinese schools must also inject Chinese society with a new life force.

Our society today has stepped into a complex era in which a wide general knowledge is essential for survival. The independent Chinese middle schools have made progress in developing Chinese-language education, but they must widen their outlook internationally in the fields of learning and knowledge in order to break through the shrinking lebensraum.

We propose that Chinese school leaders send representatives overseas, such as Japan, Taiwan and Hong Kong, to observe their secondary school curricula and systems and adapt their experiences for the strengthening of modern knowledge in our country.

9300

CSO: 4205/20

MALAYSIA

DAP CALLS ON CHINESE GROUPS TO HOLD NATIONAL CULTURAL CONFERENCE

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 7 Aug 83 p 2

[Text] Lim Kit Siang, secretary general of the Democratic Action Party [DAP], today appealed to 15 Chinese associations and the Federation of School Trustees and Teachers--whose cultural memorandum submitted to the government last March was rejected--to hold another national cultural conference in order to decide what measures they should adopt to oppose the "one language, one culture" policy.

He made this appeal during his party's banquet held at Penang's Tanjong District today.

Lim Kit Siang maintained that the reason the Chinese cultural memorandum was rejected pointblank by the minister of culture, youth and sports, Anwar Ibrahim without prior Cabinet deliberations was that, in Mr Lim's opinion, the memo ran counter to government cultural policy.

He pointed out that Minister Anwar's reply in Parliament to DAP's question about national culture deserves careful study by all Malaysians. The reason is that since the 1982 general elections, the government's comprehensive statement on national cultural policy has clearly indicated that the National Front government will not tolerate any criticism or challenge against the basic principles of the national cultural policy. The government will consider only good suggestions on how to implement the resolutions passed by the National Cultural Conference in 1971 which were based on the following three principles:

1. that the national culture is based on bumiputra [Malay] culture;
2. that suitable and appropriate factors of other cultures may be incorporated into the national culture; and
3. that the Islamic religion is an important "must" factor.

Consequently, Lim appealed to 15 national Chinese associations and the Federation of School Trustees and Teachers to hold another nationwide cultural conference to discuss about their cultural memorandum which was

bluntly rejected by the minister of culture, youth and sports, and simultaneously to adopt measures aimed at opposing the government's "one language, one culture" policy.

He stressed that if these Chinese organizations show no reaction to Minister Anwar's rejection or acquiesce to the resolutions of the 1971 National Cultural Conference, that would be most unfortunate.

9300

CSO: 4205/20

MALAYSIA

FORMULATING NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS POLICY DISCUSSED

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 8 Aug 83 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] The four-day-long "Forum on National Communications Policy," starting 6 August at the Asian and Pacific Region Development Center, carries very great significance. This forum will discuss how to draw up a national communications policy, and its findings will possibly serve as a compass for our communications policy.

Of course, we can stress that with the aid of the compass, we can avert our mass media from obstructing our national construction goals through their propaganda and their effect and that, furthermore, the mass media can fully utilize their power to strive for the molding of a multinationally harmonious, united and cooperative Malaysian society.

However, we obviously should ensure ourselves that, in conformity with the compass, our mass media can most responsibly continue to bring their own initiative into full play, so that they can become a powerful force of public opinion.

A satisfactory combination of the above-mentioned two tasks would enable our mass media to give free rein to their role with optimum results.

Just as Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir pointed out in his opening speech at the forum, it is absolutely necessary to devise a national communications policy in order to further consolidate our national foundations and help implement the ideals and aspirations of the people.

In this connection, the most important principle is, of course, to put the interests of the state and the people above all else. The prime minister asserted that in leading the community toward national goals, the government will not permit any group or individual to put their interests above national interests.

Under this principle, it is only natural that we mold our communications policy out of Malaysia's experiences and realities and national values. On this point, the prime minister even cited an example: "If one of the

targets in our educational policy concerns the eradication of illiteracy, then our national communications policy should be able to push forward the communications system in providing an unrigid educational environment, helping wipe out illiteracy, intensifying the work of TV education and implementing the educational program through the mass media."

In other words, the national communications policy should coincide with national needs to help the government to attain its national construction goals.

Such a presentation is quite different from the Western concept of freedom, obviously.

However, the prime minister injected something new to the concept of "freedom." He pointed that in reality there is no such thing as absolute freedom, not even in the freest country. Consequently, he maintained that freedom must guarantee to bring a nation and its people material benefit, and not destruction or dissension. Particularly in the realm of communications, freedom must be regarded as a means of realizing national ends.

Moreover, the prime minister criticized the monopoly of news by wire services in an advanced country, causing an unfair, one-way flow of news. He pointed out that such a situation can harm our image of national construction, way of life and to our effort in promoting our value concept.

The prime minister's talk clearly indicated that he supports the action for BERNAMA, the national Malaysian news agency, to take over as sole distributor of all foreign news.

9300

CSO: 4205/20

MALAYSIA

GOVERNMENT URGED TO KEEP 'MALAYSIAN CAR PROJECT' FREE OF RACIAL BIAS

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 9 Aug 83 p 6

[Text] Law Kock Seng, chairman of the Malaysian Automobile Dealers Union, stated that people of the same trade have been seriously hit by the prime minister's announcement on the "Malaysian native car" project, and he hoped that the government would make reasonable arrangements free of racial bias.

Mr Law made this remark at a banquet commemorating the 16th anniversary of the union at Merlin Hotel last night.

He said that car dealers suffered a big blow after Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir's announcement about the "Malaysian car project," because the automobile industry is a comprehensive heavy industry, closely related with many other commercial and industrial enterprises. The effect of the development of this plan is bound to be deep and enormous, and it is understandable that the entrepreneurs concerned have become worried. For example, what will be status and future of car assembling plants and distributors who have invested large capital in the automobile industry, seen in light of the "Malaysian car project?" What will be the changes of the market structure for wholesale and retail car and parts dealers? These are things members of this occupation are worried about. According to preliminary figures released by the authorities concerned, this particular automobile company will start producing in 1986 and its annual production will reach 120,000 units in 1989, which is 20 to 30 percent higher than the current total number of passenger car sales. It is clear that this development will bring about a great effect on the automobile industry and its market in our country. It is to be hoped that the government, in considering the matter, will use the interests of the entire Malaysian people as the basis in making fair, reasonable arrangements, free of racial or group bias.

Mr Law also brought up the problem concerning the issuance of "A" or "C" licenses for trucks. "Recently, we have often received complaints from our union members saying that after the sale of a commercial vehicle is effected, the buyer fails to obtain the proper license from the authorities to run the vehicle for business purposes. This is a most abnormal phenomenon, because such licenses should be issued to vehicle owners engaged in legitimate transport business, and not to middlemen who rent out licenses for monetary gain. This has a significant effect on the promotion of national economic

activities. If commodities can flow smoothly within the country, our economic activities will get results and our nation will get benefit from them. This is precisely the concept of the 'National United Company' brought up by Prime Minister Datuk Sri Mahathir. I hope the authorities will face this problem squarely."

Law Kock Seng said it is only natural that an economic recession weakens the purchasing power of consumers and this, in turn, causes keen competition among businesses of the same trade. He hoped that such competition would be fair and reasonable, otherwise it would produce an ill effect on the enterprises.

He continued that in the past a number of big financial corporations had appointed credit companies as their agents, and this type of market was maintained on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit more than a decade ago. However, in recent years the financial corporations, due to competition on the market, began to solicit business themselves, paying car salesmen or companies a greater commission than do their own agents, and giving them better fringe benefits, too. No doubt such a condition has placed the agents in an intolerable predicament.

This unreasonable competition has given car businesses a big blow, Law said, and it is hoped that the society of financial corporations will face up to it to forestall any worsening of the competition.

He pointed out that most recently a number of unscrupulous elements cheated members of his automobile union with counterfeit documents. He warned those present at the banquet to be wary, and hoped the police and the Bureau of Overland Communication would strengthen their control and cooperate closely with the union.

On this occasion, a commemorative shield was presented to Teo Cheng Siu, for 10 years past chairman and now honorary chairman and adviser of the union, as a token of appreciation of his contributions.

9300

CSO: 4205/21

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

MALAY-OWNED COMPANIES--The minister of trade today stated that up to June this year, there were 380,654 registered companies throughout Malaysia, of which 112,097 were Malay-owned, while the remaining 268,001 belonged to non-Malays. In a written reply to Ibrahim Abdullah's interpellation, the minister said in a Senate session today that during the first half of this year, 8,313 new companies were registered, of which 769 were owned by the bumiputras. [Text] [Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 11 Aug 83 p 22] 9300

CSO: 4205/21

PHILIPPINES

NATION PREOCCUPIED WITH AQUINO KILLING

HK111452 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 11 Oct 83 p 6

["The Jaywalker" column by Arturo A. Borjal: "Devaluation: Is It an Economic Solution to a Political Problem?"]

[Excerpts] We are in for more speculations. After the presidential rebuke of the prime minister, is Cesar Virata resigning? And if Mr Virata resigns, how will the international business community react?

Governor Jaime C. Laya, too, created a ripple of anxiety when he admitted the possibility of another peso devaluation. How much will the devaluation be-- and how long will it hold? What is really wrong with the Philippine economy-- and what must really be done?

The country's economic recovery depends on how fast we can end speculations and anxieties besetting us today. For confidence can be restored only if the future is certain. Right now, the truth is that people don't really know what the coming days or weeks will bring.

Some intellectuals in business circles think the peso devaluation won't solve our national problems. The devaluation, they contend, is an economic solution to a political problem. They suggest that the first step should be to resolve the political problems.

The country's best roads used to be in the province of Batangas. Today, Batangas' main highways are a mess, especially the Batangas City-Taal stretch. The same sorry situation is true with many other roads throughout the country. The Ministry of Public Works and Highways cannot escape responsibility for gross negligence.

There's little hope that the country's potholed roads will be repaired. The MPWH is running out of money, a great amount of which went to contractors who cheated on their contracts. We must now suffer for tolerating the unholy alliances between government bigwigs and irresponsible contractors. We deserve our fate.

Assemblyman Arturo Tolentino's conditions for assuming the chairmanship of the Aquino Assassination Commission appear, at this stage, impossible to grant. There is reason to write him off from the commission's roster. The next task now is to look for a new chairman, a search that's increasingly becoming more difficult.

Mr Tolentino's virtual rejection of the commission's chairmanship is a big blow to the government. For the past few days, he was being hailed by government propagandists as the person to bring credibility to the commission. But with his rejection, Mr Tolentino has, wittingly or unwittingly, given credence to public suspicion that the commission, as currently constituted, is inadequate.

The government's error was in assuming that Mr Tolentino would say yes to the invitation to join the commission. This same error was evident when Information Minister Gregorio Cendana approached Foreign Affairs Minister Carlos P. Romulo [CPR] with a prepared statement to sign. At least, colleagues of Mr Romulo say, CPR should have been consulted first and allowed to write his own statement, free of grammatical errors and phrased in his own style.

A few days after the Aquino assassination, the 12 regional offices of the Office of Media Affairs [OMA] were directed to conduct a survey on the people's sentiments. The results of the survey have since then been transmitted to OMA. What's surprising is that up to now, Mr Cendana's bright boys have not leased the results. [as printed]

The ongoing ASEAN Forestry Congress should train its guns on the growing log-smuggling problem in regional waters. As of now, the most logical solution appears to be the establishment of a naval blockade. This naval unit would then run after mercenary ships used in the log-smuggling run.

The present slump in the shipping industry is conducive to log smuggling. Many cargo ships, mostly medium-sized freighters mothballed due to lack of cargoes, are willing to smuggle logs if the price is right. These roving mercenary ships are lying idle in obscure docks in Hong Kong and Singapore.

What's disturbing about the nation's preoccupation with the Aquino assassination and its aftermath is that it makes us forget about the basic problems bugging the populace. Government people neglect their duties in the absence of strong public pressure to compel the bureaucrats to act.

CSO: 4200/82

PHILIPPINES

BANKERS FEAR FURTHER PESO DEVALUATIONS

HK130158 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 11 Oct 83 p 16

[Text] Bankers are apprehensive that the peso devaluation last week would only lead to further devaluations in the coming months.

They pointed out that the P [peso]14 to \$1 devaluation was clearly the end-result of recent political developments which promoted foreign banks to slow down their exposures in the country. As Central Bank itself noted, this slow-down widened the capital accounts deficit leading to an \$800-million balance-of-payments deficit for the third quarter alone.

But last week's devaluation, bankers told BUSINESS DAY, would trigger a round of price increases, as the June 23 devaluation did, which would put the government back to square one--more political unrest that would scare foreign bankers and investors even further.

"Along with Makati employees and students, demonstrating mainly for political purposes, we might be seeing laborers and jeepney drivers going to the streets for economic reasons," one banker commented.

A bank economist also claimed that the devaluation was "no solution" but merely a reaction that has a low probability of alleviating the current foreign exchange crisis. While the devaluation would dampen imports immediately, exports' response to devaluation has a relatively long lag time, he explained.

He pointed out that three months after the June 23 devaluation, the country's exports, as the Central Bank itself indirectly admitted, had not responded as fast as expected.

"Any way," the economist noted, "while the June 23 devaluation was an economic measure to alleviate the current accounts deficit, the devaluation last week cannot directly alleviate the capital accounts deficit in the third quarter since that was caused by political developments."

At least two bankers interviewed by BUSINESS DAY also argued that further devaluation can be staved off only if the government faces squarely the political problem that caused it. "It's either martial law or that national reconciliation thing (that will quiet down the political unrest)" one banker said.

IMF Mission: in another development, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission that would continue negotiations with the Philippine Government for the release of the remaining tranches of the IMF's standby facility arrived yesterday morning. The mission's members directly proceeded to the Central Bank for consultations.

BUSINESS DAY learned that the country's monetary authorities have requested the IMF to speed up the mission's consultations and review of the Central Bank's economic data since the release of the remaining tranches of the IMF's standby facility would be a signal for foreign bankers to resume the pace of loan releases that existed before last month.

A source also noted that while the IMF and the World Bank operate independently, and that in contrast to the IMF, the World Bank has been "more sympathetic to the country's economic problems, an IMF "imprimatur" on the country's economic strength may be necessary for the extension of further World Bank loans to the country.

CSO: 4200/82

PAPER SEES 'MINORITY' AS 'OPPRESSOR'

HK110026 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 10 Oct 83 p 4

[Editorial: "The Oppressed Now the Oppressor"]

[Text] Reports are filtering out of several business establishments in Makati and Manila that minor officials and employees are being pressured into joining public rallies and demonstrations against the government.

This is a new [word indistinct] in local political developments and should be studied seriously in the light of its effects on the overall economic situation.

Obviously, it is not the president or leading board members of private business houses who are responsible for the pressure on their subordinates. It appears that the people behind the move to get employees out of their offices at a designated hour and to demonstrate even during working hours are the minor executives, some of them recognized leaders of the Kabataang Makabayan (KM) of pre-martial law days.

A number of those minor officials and employees who said they would be unable to demonstrate because of pressure of work or who just simply did not want to attend were branded outright "pro-Marcos" men or women and not with those who shout "ninoy, hindi ka nagiisa." They are now the branded minority within the so-called minority.

Several heated discussions among opposing groups within a business house were reported. Some nearly came to blows, according to reports. It is clear that rabid minor officials and their followers have taken to the field to put the heat on others. Only the independent-minded have remained clear from the pressure.

If this is still a democracy, then every man or woman has a right to believe in something. No one takes away from the Aquino supporters or the anti-government groups their right to think and act as oppositionists. It goes without saying that those who think otherwise should also be given the God-given right to think as they do.

What has happened, however, is that the minority which claims it has been oppressed by a despotic government has become the oppressor at a time when it has not yet been handed the mantle of power by the people.

PHILIPPINES

WESTERN PRESS CRITICIZED AT INTER-ASIAN MEETING

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 5 Oct 83 p 13

[Article by Jesus Bigornia]

[Excerpt]

The Philippines has mounted a counter-attack on the "meddling" Western press on a broad Asian front, even as President Marcos was telling them to lay off Philippine domestic affairs. Picked as the launching pad for the initial Philippine salvo is the on-going sixty general assembly of the Asian Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO) in Singapore where the Philippine delegation has raised the question of whether or not the Western press has become "an active broker of a new form of colonialism, more subtle and pernicious than the traditional form."

Members of the delegation headed by Batasang Pambansa Speaker Querube Makalintal took turns at: (1) charging that knowledge and correct information... have been manipulated as instruments to subjugate the minds and wills of Third World countries; (2) pointing at the United States as "the area in which critics of Philippine politics, culture and society have found their most congenial instrument--the media"; and (3) denouncing the American press for having become "tools of selfish interests and egotistic forces of neo-colonialism readily identified as the US military-industrial complex."

At home, a peeved President Marcos virtually told a panel of interrogators during a televised interview over the networks of American Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) to lay off Philippine domestic affairs. The President's ire erupted when one of the interrogators suggested that the present political tension prevailing in the Philippines would simmer down if the First Lady, Mrs Imelda R. Marcos, should publicly announce her irrevocable intention to remain out of contention for the presidency should Mr Marcos step down from office. Knowledgeable viewers observed that the whole line of questioning showed a heavy streak of anti-Marcos sentiment and an obvious attempt to influence viewers against the President and his regime.

CSO: 4200/74

EDITORIAL ON DANGER OF GOVERNMENT OVERREACTION

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 1 Oct 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Danger of Over-Reaction"]

[Text] While practically everybody is in agreement with the government regarding tougher measures to prevent the likes of the recent Mendiola clash and subsequent rioting throughout Manila, not a few are apprehensive over possible over-reaction by the government and the military.

A case in point is the establishment of checkpoints and the spot searches being conducted by armed uniformed soldiers. True, the soldiers have so far been courteous and unabusive to the public. But the very sight of these checkpoints and militarymen in the streets, specially when prolonged, intimates abnormal times and political instability and thus serves to heighten tensions.

The rules governing rallies and demonstrations another. In their attempt to insure non-violent protest assemblies, city officials and law enforcers could be giving the impression that the people's constitutional rights are being curtailed. If this happens, protesters might show defiance by not applying for permits at all and simply demonstrating despite threats of dispersal and arrest.

Just how far should mass assemblies and other forms of expressions be regulated without impinging on civil and human rights? When are speeches, streamers, placards, handbills and publications subversive or legitiamte expressions? When is a protest action seditious?

These are not easy questions. But these are questions which cannot be glossed over even if the government measures are meant to uphold the law and protect higher interests. No one relishes anarchy and violence in the streets, but neither does anyone relish the curtailment of his rights.

CSO: 4200/75

INCREASED MILITARY TRAINING 'OFFERED'

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Oct 83 p 36

[Text]

The Metropolitan Citizen Military Training Command (MCMTC) announced yesterday that effective this second semester, it will offer four courses of citizen military training (CMT) instead of the usual two courses.

The four-course offer will give Youth Action and Development Organization (YADO) enrollees a chance to take the courses which they missed.

Brig. Gen. Jaime B. Muyargas, commanding general of MCMTC, maintained that only the MCMTC, formerly ROTC, is authorized by the government to conduct the two-year basic military training for college students.

Some students, Muyargas said, have turned to YADO, activities, hoping that they would be given CMT credits for these activities.

He said that earlier announcements made through the school registrars were clear on the point that the government does not allow any organization other than MCMTC to offer the CMT courses.

General Muyargas said that some students do not attend the required military training for various reasons, including refusal to have their hair cut short, avoidance of physical exertion, plain laziness, and failure to appreciate the importance of the requirement.

According to him, students who did not take the CMT courses in their early years in college become easy prey of unscrupulous persons who make them believe that they can graduate without having to undergo the actual basic military training.

PHILIPPINES

NRA GUERRILLAS AMBUSH AFP TROOPS

Troops Sent To Track Down Guerrillas

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 2 Oct 83 pp 1, 6

[Article by Roy Ramos]

[Text] Zamboanga City, Oct 1--The Southern Command yesterday sent marine troops to Gudud, Zamboanga del Norte, to track down the group of New People's Army guerillas who ambushed and reportedly killed 52 army troops, including a colonel in that area Thursday.

Southcom Chief Maj Gen [word blurred] Castro also went to the ambush scene to get firsthand information about the incident.

Castro, however, said the casualty figure is not yet confirmed.

Army sources operating in Zamboanga del Norte confirmed the killing of 52 soldiers belonging to the 30th infantry battalion.

Among the casualties was one Col Atienza, 30th battalion commander, the army sources said.

The two funeral parlors in the city also confirmed that the military's Southern Support and Logistics Command have ordered 52 caskets for the victims of the ambush.

The army sources also said 17 others were wounded and the ambushers took the 52 automatic rifles of the victims.

The ambushers were reportedly led by Kumander Fernando Rodriguez, a renegade bemedalled constabulary soldier.

Sources said the returning troopers were sprayed with machine gun fire while heading back to their base in Ipil after operations along the border between Zamboanga del Norte and Zamboanga del Sur provinces.

They added the ambushed troops were from Delta Company of the 30th Infantry Battalion commanded by Lt Col Pedro Atienza.

In another clash on Mindanao, the same sources said three NPA men were killed in a 15-minute gun battle in Bukidnon province Friday. One was believed to be a high-ranking NPA officer.

A Soviet-made Ak-47 rifle and other equipment were seized, the sources said.

Official Report Lists 46 Dead

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 3 Oct 83 pp 1, 16

[Article by Vic Arevalo]

[Text] Zamboanga City--Forty-six persons, including 39 army soldiers were confirmed killed when more than 70 New People's Army (NPA) rebels ambushed a weapon-carrier truck shortly before noon Thursday in sitio Rubio, Barangay Gulod, Salug, Zamboanga del Norte.

A military report released yesterday through Vicente B. Pena, acting regional director of the Office of Media Affairs (OMA), disclosed that eight other persons were wounded. They were taken to the Sindangan Emergency Hospital, also in Zamboanga del Norte.

Maj Gen Delfin Castro, Southern command chief, went to the ambush site yesterday and confirmed the casualty figure of 46.

However, Castro declined to give the actual figure of soldiers who were wounded. He also withheld the soldiers' identities pending receipt of a report on the case by Gen Fabian Ver, Armed Forces chief of staff, and relatives of the victims.

Castro said the soldiers belong to the 30th Infantry battalion under Lt Col Ramon Atienza, Jr., of the Army's 4th Infantry (Diamond) division.

Castro said Salug and Sindangan officials reported to him that among the civilians killed were a Sangguniang Bayan member, a woman with a five-year-old child, the civilian driver of the weapon-carrier truck, two truck helpers, and a member of the Civilian Home Defense Force (CHDF).

Earlier, Col Reynaldo Dilan, first brigade commander of the Army's 4th division, dispatched three Army companies to go after the rebels who reportedly seized the firearms of the slain soldiers.

The OMA report said the Army company was on patrol in the Gulod area and was on the way to another area aboard the weapon-carrier truck which was borrowed from the town mayor.

The soldiers were reportedly ambushed while the vehicle was negotiating an elevated portion of the road in sitio Rube.

The weapon-carrier truck reportedly has a capacity of 16 passengers but it was loaded with some 60 persons at the time of the ambush.

The rebels were reportedly posted on both sides of the road and fired from the rear and front portions of the truck. The survivors reportedly escaped by jumping to a ravine.

The Army company that was ambushed was led by 1st Lt Pedro Garcenego, who was also killed, and 1st Lt Arciaga, who was wounded.

The ambush site is 20 kilometers away from the Salug town. The 30th Infantry battalion is based in Ipil, Zamboanga del Sur, 70 kilometers away from Salug.

CSO: 4200/75

IRANIAN STUDENTS REPORTEDLY PLANNING TERRORIST ACTIVITIES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 4 Oct 83 p 24

[Text]

A group of Iranian Muslim students is reportedly out to take advantage of the present critical situation by engaging in terrorist activities such as sabotaging government facilities, newspaper plants, TV and radio stations, hotels, and embassies.

Reports reaching the Education Ministry yesterday disclosed that these Iranians were using education as a front to enter the country and were sent by their government not to study but to launch an "Islamic revolution."

They were reportedly trained and given specific instructions by the Iranian government through their embassy here to join rallies being conducted by the students and other opposition groups against the gov-

ernment.

The reports said this group of foreign students "are instigators who blame their sufferings on what they claimed as the terrorist tactics of the Marcos regime."

A manifesto prepared by the Iranian Muslim Students in the Philippines, which was cited by the reports, further revealed a plan to eliminate "all identified enemies" and to join Philippine revolutionaries "in a violent and aggressive revolution."

The manifesto, allegedly prepared by detained suspected head of a pro-Khomeini "hit" squad, Amir Hossain Kamboozia, denounced the "terrorist tactics of the fascist Marcos regime, the black propaganda of the Philippine mass media under the influ-

ence of some officials of the education ministry, immigration bureau, Malacañang intelligence agents, US embassy agents, and US and Israeli advisors to this puppet regime."

It claimed that these government agencies and their foreign advisers were fed false information by their Iranian enemies in the resistance movement "led by CIA-MOSSAD-SAVAK agent Khosrow Minuchehr and his gang of refugees."

The manifesto revealed that this group of Muslim students came here for "a united cause to make all people in the world to believe and practice the only way to salvation and happiness — Islam," and that to them "education in the Philippines is not important."

EDITORIAL: NO DEEP DIFFERENCES BETWEEN DEMONSTRATORS, GOVERNMENT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 2 Oct 83 p 6

[Editorial: "Source of Pride"]

[Text] Even if the public rallies are held only in the daytime, some people are liable to get injured because the crowds are emotional while the police are determined to preserve the peace. Misunderstandings are unavoidable.

But there are certain factors that tend to limit animosity and to put a ceiling on damage.

One of them is the fact that almost all the participants in the demonstrations and rallies are young and educated people. This implies a degree of self-control. That in turn accounts for the relatively mild reaction of the riot-control policemen.

Another factor is there are no truly deep political differences between the demonstrators and the government, despite all the noise. Political differences are significant if they are caused by differing perceptions on form of government or ideology, in which case people would be ready to die on the streets.

A third factor is the consensus on the need for reconciliation. The consensus implies a flexibility of positions. A dispassionate view of the situation is demonstrations and rallies are a passing phenomenon. Eventually, they will fade away as the political difficulties dissipate.

If they are a temporary occurrence, the cost should be kept as low as possible so that they will not be a cause for regret later on when the differences shall have been ironed out.

No nation has not experienced difficulties of one kind or another. While tragic experiences are memorable, they are, in the view of history, regrettable.

On the other hand, it is a source of continuing pride for any people to have surmounted some difficulty with the least cost to life and limb.

CSO: 4200/74

AFP SUCCESSES AGAINST TERRORISTS REPORTED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 2 Oct 83 p 17

[Text] In a series of security operations launched by elements of Philippine Army Rangers and its infantry battalions, 23 terrorists were slain and four captured in separate encounters.

Several cache of high powered firearms, ammunition and equipments were also recovered and seized, including assorted medicines.

Captured were Samuel Quilaban, Felimon Pepanya and Jenie Dumaog in Plaridel, Misamis Occidental. Dumaog is the son of NPA commander Agropok.

Another rebel (Mujib Ban Muhatiban) was captured in a zoning operation in Rio Mariki, Zamboanga del Sur.

In Kurungan, Maguindanao, a raid conducted by PA 35th Infantry Battalion resulted to the death of 10 terrorists, including Commander Manuel Hadji Sarip, father of Commander Kadatu Hadji Sarip. Seized were M16 rifles cal. 5.56 mm, assorted rounds of ammunitions and subversive documents.

In Tugaya, Tubad, Lanso del Norte, six rebels were killed in a raid conducted by Cpt Viba of 40 Infantry Battalion. Four garand rifles were recovered from the slain rebels. Two army troopers were wounded during the encounter.

CSO: 4200/74

PHILIPPINES

ENRILE ON EXPECTED 'MARXIST' INCURSIONS

HK100244 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 9 Oct 83 pp 1, 2

[Text] Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile said the other night that hardcore Marxists are expected to intensify their underground activities.

Enrile said the hardcore Marxists are expected to concentrate their efforts on "agitation and propaganda, organizational work, infiltration of legitimate groups, so-called United-Front building and the recruitment of cadres from strategic sectors."

The minister revealed these challenges poised by local communists in a speech before the University of the Philippines Master of Business Administration Alumni Association headed by Brig. Gen. Edon Yap, commanding general of the army reserve command.

Enrile called upon the people to be vigilant and constantly on guard against these underground activities "which erode the foundations of domestic peace and stability."

The call was particularly sounded on those engaged in peaceful mass actions and protests to police their ranks and exercise utmost vigilance against infiltrators and agents provocateur.

"The various dimensions of our struggle against dissidence have steadily become more complex and demanding of an enlightened outlook, so much so that each and every sector in our community is called upon to fully appreciate where it stands in the struggle and what it must do to ensure the success of the entire effort," the minister said.

He said that critical problems would continue to plague the people, especially the poor and the underprivileged. He said the country's development timetables might be affected in some areas and "we can expect the dissidents to make incursions into these areas.

He said that hard economic realities the nation is facing today "demand the greatest amount of collective concern."

"You are aware that a serious crisis in the economy always invites more insidious efforts on the part of the enemy to sow dissension, foment their so-called 'class struggle' and erode popular confidence in the duly-constituted government," Enrile said in his speech.

He reassured the public that "we are ever prepared to deal with any adverse trends in the law and order situation that could develop out of any imbalances in the economy or in the social environment."

Enrile also said he was confident that the great majority of Filipinos "would never support any violent solutions to the problems facing our country."

He said that for some people to say that the country is on the brink of "civil war" or a bloody revolution is "an insult to the majority of our well-meaning countrymen whom I know are willing to peaceably air their grievances against the government and settle them in the spirit of dialog and reason."

CSO: 4200/82

MINDORO ORIENTAL POLITICAL SCRAMBLE VIEWED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Oct 83 p 35

[Article by F.T. Flores]

[Text] The people in Mindoro Oriental are wondering who fill the void left by the recent death of their lone Assemblyman Jose Leido, Jr., who was also the KBL provincial chairman, not to mention his position of leadership in Region IV and the country as a whole.

Leido's successor must approximate, if not equal or surpass, the late assemblyman's accomplishments, particularly his success in securing World Bank financing for infrastructure and other development projects that is now spurring the province and its 15 towns to progress steadily. A person whose know-how and "know-who" may not be so wide and extensive may not be able to deliver.

Reportedly angling for the KBL provincial chairmanship are incumbent Gov Hecublino Catley and ex-Gov Alfonso Umali who is/was the vice-chairman. The latter should have taken over by succession but the chapter had allegedly passed a resolution expelling him because of supposed disloyalty for directly supporting certain Nacionalista candidates in the last local elections. Governor Catly on the other hand, is said to be at odds with members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, which may explain why there has been no move to give him the chairmanship.

For the nomination as KBL candidate for Region IV assemblyman to represent Mindoro Oriental, signs of a scramble have surfaced. Veteran politicians, like Dr Remigio Baldos and ex-Mayor Jose Morente, both from Pinamaylan town, have signified their interest to run for the Batasan seat. Ex-Governor Umali is also reported to be eyeing the same position.

Some political leaders, however, are strongly endorsing Rodolfo G. Valencia, a prominent Metro Manila businessman, to be the Batasan candidate in 1984. These quarters opine that his expertise in planning, development and management of real estate and allied projects places Valencia, who hails from towns of Calapan and Naujan, in the best position to at least approximate the record of the late Assemblyman Leido.

CSO: 4200/72

PHILIPPINES

PRO-GOVERNMENT MUSLIMS CITE SAUDI ENVOY'S SUPPORT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Oct 83 p 9

[Text] After more than four years in Manila, Saudi Ambassador Mohammad Fawzi Shobokshi is leaving Manila for a new assignment in Tokyo, Japan.

In a farewell dinner hosted by Muslim Affairs Minister and Mrs Romulo M. Espaldon in honor of the Shobokshi family at the Philippine Plaza Hotel, Ambassador Shobokshi expressed his gratitude to the Filipino Muslim community and the entire Filipino people for the warm acceptance and hospitality accorded them during their stay in the country.

Minister Espaldon presented an award of recognition signed by local Muslim leaders to Ambassador Shobokshi in acknowledgement of the full support he gave to the Philippine government that paved the way to closer understanding and unity of Muslim Filipinos with their brothers in Asia and the Middle East, especially Saudi Arabia.

His efforts helped bring about the fruitful visit of President Marcos to the royal kingdom last year and he also assisted the Filipino Muslim community, particularly in the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, Espaldon said.

CSO: 4200/72

PHILIPPINES

CENTRAL BANK CONSIDERS BARRING GOVERNMENT FIRM BORROWING

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 1 Oct 83 p 10

[Article by George Nervez]

[Text] The Central Bank may postpone additional public borrowing this year of government corporations through auctions of their respective bonds and other debt securities.

The move would affect government corporation bond issuers, like the National Development Co., National Food Authority, Development Bank of the Phils., National Home Mortgage Finance Corp. (NHMFC), which sell their bonds to their operations.

According to government sources, an inter-agency group from the CB and the Ministry of Finance have been formed to restudy the bond flotation program of the agencies.

They added that the review was prompted by recent setbacks in the public auction of government securities, including the CB certificates of indebtedness (CBCIs).

The DBP originally planned to raise a total of P1.2 billion this year through the public sale of its five-year countryside bills.

The DBP was authorized last December to sell P1.4-billion worth of its countryside bills. A block worth P200 million was sold in December 1982.

The government bank has been regularly selling the bills, but it had to cancel its P200-million offering last September 14 because of the public to raise funds for unattractive offers from investors.

Postponement of the bond flotations would likewise affect the NDC, the government's investment arm, which was authorized to sell to the public P600-million worth of its two-year, taxable nine percent certificates.

Also to be affected are the NFA and the NHMFC which are authorized to sell up to P1 billion and P2 billion, respectively, of their bonds.

So far, the NHMFC has made some headway in its public borrowings because of the liquidity support that the agency provides for its bonds.

But investors have been cool to other government corporate bond issues, including the CBCIs.

Only the treasury notes are getting active investor acceptance. In fact, another block worth P200 million is scheduled to be sold on Oct 12, 1983.

CSO: 4200/75

\$300 MILLION NEEDED TO SERVICE COUNTRY'S DEBTS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 4 Oct 83 pp 10, 9

[Article by George T. Nervez]

[Text] The country needs some \$300 million of bridge financing for interest and amortization payments on foreign debts this year, according to Economic Planning Minister Vicente Valdepenas.

Valdepenas, who is a member of the Monetary Board, said the financing was needed to tide over the country's debt problems before end 1983.

He added that \$50 million from the Economic Support Fund (ESF) advanced recently by the United States may be used to help pay for the maturing foreign debts.

The balance of \$250 million is being raised among Japanese and American bankers who are meeting in New York with Central Bank Gov Jaime C. Laya and other officials.

As of June 1983, the country's outstanding foreign debt amounted to about \$18 billion, consisting of \$13,434 billion fixed-term debt, and \$4.65 billion short-term borrowings (as of March 1983).

He said that in 1983, total interest and amortization payments is projected to hit \$2.3 billion.

Valdepenas was optimistic that the country can continue borrowing to pay for interest and amortization on foreign debts as in the past.

He said \$150 million representing the second tranche of the \$300-million second structural adjustment loan (SAL) will be released by the World Bank this month.

The initial tranche worth \$150 million was supposed to have been released last May, it was learned.

During a press briefing, Valdepenas, who is also director general of the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) said that economic growth as measured by the Gross National Product (GNP) rose three percent in the first half of 1983.

"This amounts to a faster pace of economic growth in the country than its comparable pace during the first half of 1983 when economic activity went up by 2.6 percent," he said.

The growth, he added, was due mainly to a 4.2 percent expansion in the service sector, particularly finance and housing.

Growth was likewise noted in the industrial sector which grew by 3.9 percent more than double its comparable pace in the first half of 1982.

The growth areas in the industrial sector were mining which expanded 7.3 percent, a dramatic turnaround from a 10.1 percent decline in the first half last year.

Manufacturing expanded by 4.3 percent or more than twice its comparable pace in 1982.

On the other hand, agriculture and fishery declined by one percent from a five percent growth last year.

Loan Talks Denied

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 5 Oct 83 p 22

[Text] A senior official of the Central Bank denied yesterday that the Philippines was negotiating for a \$250 million bridge financing with American and Japanese banks to meet maturing payments on short-term loans.

He was reacting to a published statement attributed to Economic Planning Minister Vicente B. Valdepenas, a member of the monetary board, that the Philippines needs to raise about \$300 million in new loans this year to pay for maturing short-term obligations with foreign banks.

The CB official, who declined to be identified said that no such negotiation is underway because existing foreign reserves were more than enough to meet maturing short-term debts for the rest of the year since repayments on foreign obligations, both for fixed-term credit and short-term credits were already provided for in the credit budget of the CB.

The country has about \$4.5 billion in short-term credits, the bulk of which are trade related whose greater portion are incurred in connection with oil imports by the Philippine National Oil Company and the other oil firms.

Not all of these debts are maturing the rest of the year, as a good portion of them were already rolled-over as they mature, or as new purchases or importations are made.

He said both the country's debt servicing needs of \$2.2 billion for the year for both principal and interest payments on the \$18 billion outstanding debts have been properly appropriated as part of the extra-careful debt management policies of the CB.

Negotiations currently being undertaken by Prime Minister Cesar Virata and Central Bank Governor Jaime C. Laya in Washington, according to the same CB official, were about a new stand-by credit line with the International Monetary Fund.

CSO: 4200/75

ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN REPORTED IN NORTHERN LUZON

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 5 Oct 83 p 13

[Article by Milton P. Pascua]

[Text] Laoag City--A slowdown in the economic growth of Northern Luzon has been noted for the past months because of the sudden slump in agricultural production brought about by the long dry season, according to the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Region I.

Lack of rainfall during the past few months has damaged thousands of agricultural lands in many parts of Ilocos notably in La Union, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur and Pangasinan affecting tremendously vegetable and rice production, the NEDA report said.

The NEDA semestral report also noted that prices in this part of the country went up by eight percent with the peso now worth P0.51. Goods that could be bought for P2 in 1981 now cost P4.

Household income from January to June of this year has decreased by five percent. At present, urban households have an average income of P1,834 a month while those in the urban centers reported an average income of about P1,199 monthly.

The NEDA disclosed that efforts of agriculture technicians to save thousands of farm products from the drought was not successful thus declining the farm output of the region for the last six months.

Despite this problem in agriculture, the Ilocos economy has been sustained by the increasing prices of gold and silver in the world market and the high demand of cottage products. The mining sector has increased its revenue by as much as 200 percent and cottage products have netted some P7 million during the period.

The NEDA report also disclosed that some 260,000 households in Ilocos region have a monthly income of P1999.00 and below; 387,983 households reported an income of P2,000 to P9,999 per month while 44,269 households had an income of P10,000 and more per month.

At the same time, the NEDA reported that a feasibility study has been conducted on the proposal to convert San Fernando, La Union into a component city.

At present, Ilocos region has four cities among them Laoag in Ilocos Norte, Baguio in Benguet, San Carlos and Dagupan in Pangasinan.

CSO: 4200/74

PHILIPPINES

REPORT ON PHILIPPINE WORKERS IN SAUDI ARABIA

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 3 Oct 83 p 9

[Text] Outgoing Saudi Ambassador Fawsi Shobokshi reported Wednesday night that the more than 200,000 Filipino expatriate workers in Saudi Arabia now earn a total of \$1 million a month.

Some US \$12 million are remitted annually to the Philippines by Filipino workers in Saudi Arabia, Shobokshi added.

Shobokshi, who is being reassigned from the Philippines, said that Saudis are happy to know that many Filipinos and their families have improved their lot as a result of their employment in Saudi Arabia.

He said that Saudi Arabians are pleased to know that many Filipino workers can now send their children to school or start their own business.

Labor Minister Blas F. Ople tendered a dinner for Shobokshi and his wife at the Champagne room of the Manila hotel last Wednesday night. Ople attributed to the Saudi envoy much of the success of Philippine-Saudi relations.

Shobokshi said that while there are no agreements between Saudi Arabia and the Philippines, the relations between the two countries are substantially forged by the Filipino workers in Saudi Arabia.

Between 1972 and 1979, he said, his consulate approved about 100,000 visas for Filipino contract workers. Between May 1979 and the present, the Saudi embassy has approved some 500,000 visas.

In introducing Shobokshi, Ople said that the Saudi-Philippine relation was a "non-entity" only a few years ago. He said Shobokshi helped convert the relationship between the two countries into a creative force for understanding, goodwill and cooperation.

CSO: 4200/74

CONSUMER BLACKOUT PROTESTS NPC INACTION

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Oct 83 p 36

[Article by E.T. Suarez]

[Text] A synchronized regional power blackout of consumers of electric cooperatives in Mindanao lasting from 5-7 p.m. will start today in protest against the alleged inaction of the National Power Corporation on the demands of coops for the restoration of the 100 percent hydropower allocation and to the unilateral increase in power rates by 4.1 centavos per kilowatt hour effective Oct 1.

Francis T. Nacianceno, Jr., general manager of the Federation of Electric Cooperatives of the Philippines with 121 members serving more than 14 million consumers said the protest action was agreed upon by officials of Mindanao's 24 power coops at a meeting in Davao City last Sept 24.

Nacianceno said similar protests have also been planned by electric cooperatives in Luzon and Visayas.

Mylven D. Yballe, president of Northeastern Mindanao Electric Cooperatives Association, said the move will dramatize the coops' objection to the NPC policy of supplying them with only 80 percent of their total power needs despite the normalization of the power level in Lake Lanao.

Yballe warned that if this NPC policy will continue, the government's electrification in Mindanao will be derailed resulting in undue hardships to the people, aggravate the peace and order situation in the area and dislocate the economy in the region.

Nacianceno explained that the latest power rate increase supposedly intended to cover the fuel cost to run NPC's diesel generators is in addition to the 0.75 0.75 centavos raise under NPC's 18-month program and the 10 percent increase in bulk power sales which took effect last Feb 12.

CSO: 4200/72

UNITED COCONUT ASSOCIATION RELEASES EXPORT FIGURES

Sharp Rise in August

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 2 Oct 83 p 12

[Text]

Exports of coconut products registered the highest rate of increase during the year last August when volume of shipments went up by 15 per cent to 148,712 metric tons and value by 38.3 per cent to \$59 million compared to that of the same month last year.

Total export receipts earned so far from coconut products from January to August this year amounted to \$383 million, still 13.5 per cent short of the \$442.8 million earned during the same period last year.

But what was significant from the statistics released by the United Coconut Association of the Philippines yesterday was the substantial rise in posted prices for various coconut products in August.

On a year-to-year comparison, average

f.o.b. prices as of August showed a 14.8 per cent improvement in the case of coconut oil, 10.4 per cent for copra meal, and 60.2 per cent for desiccated coconut.

However, the average prices for the eight-month period (January to August) still showed that this year's prices were still lower by 7.6 per cent for coconut oil, 0.7 per cent for copra meal, 13.1 per cent for activated carbon, and 4.5 per cent for coconut shell charcoal. Only desiccated coconut prices were higher by 5.9 per cent on an eight-month average year-to-year comparison.

In terms of products, the eight-month export receipts were divided as follows: coconut oil, \$279 million; copra, \$3.46 million; copra meal, \$43.7 million; desiccated coconut,

\$50.12 million; coconut shell charcoal, \$1.65 million and activated carbon, \$5.1 million.

In August, the value of coconut oil receipts increased by 49.2 per cent to \$41.23 million, copra meal by 37.3 per cent to \$7.3 million, desiccated coconut by 76.4 per cent to \$9.76 million, and coconut shell charcoal by 27.2 per cent to \$140,000.

Industry sources said that a good sign noted in August was the fact that the substantial increases in prices for coconut oil, copra meal and desiccated coconut exports were accompanied by a correspondingly substantial expansion in volume of shipments.

According to UCAP, the results of January-August export performance aligned very closely to its forecast prepared earlier this year.

Annual Exports Drop

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 3 Oct 83 p 14

[Text] Philippine exports of coconut products during the first eight months of the year reached (in copra terms) 1,151,131 metric tons (MT) or down by 9.3 percent from last year's shipments of 1,268,702 MT.

Value of the exports aggregated \$383,032,905 which suffered a 13.5 percent from \$442,799,720 registered in January-to-August 1982.

For August alone, shipments of coconut products totaled 148,712 MT valued at \$58,996,968. Both volume shipments and value registered substantial increases compared with levels registered in August 1982.

Coconut oil exports during the eight-month period reached 661,457 MT, posting a 1.6 percent increase. Value of total exports, however, suffered a 6.1 percent drop at \$296,939,610.

Exported copra amounted to 12,325 MT worth \$3,462,625 while copra meal shipped during the period reached 356,671 MT valued at \$43,726,130.

Other coconut products exported during the period were desiccated coconut, 57,484 MT worth \$50,122,758; coco shell charcoal, 11,647 MT, \$1,653,799 and activated carbon, 5,247 MT, \$5,108,865.

Of the total crude coconut oil exported during the period, the bulk or 52,248,32 MT worth \$26,361,085.44 represented shipments made by United Coconut Oil Mills, Inc.

The rest of the shipments were made by the following: Interco Manufacturing Corp., 15,865.85 MT valued at \$5,409,400; International Copra Export Corp., 7,416.61 MT, \$3,571,000; Procter & Gamble PMC, 3,255.68 MT, \$1,800,271.79; Southern Leyte Oil Mills, Inc., 2,032 MT, \$965,465; Philippine Refining Co., 508 MT, \$294,490.

The bulk or 37,439.92 of total crude coconut oil exports went to the US, with Europe absorbing some 36,506.91 MT. The rest went to Japan, 3,331.63 MT; Singapore, 1,016 MT, and South Korea, 2,032 MT.

CSO: 4200/75

PHILIPPINES

VIRATA ANTICIPATES 12 PERCENT EXPORT RISE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Oct 83 pp 1, 15

[Text] Washington (PNA)--Prime Minister Cesar Virata said yesterday the Philippines anticipates a 12 percent growth increase in all exports this year, despite problems spawned by the record drought that has severely affected the country's agricultural production.

At the same time, Virata, who is also his country's finance minister, said his government was targetting a zero balance-of-payments deficit in 1984, against a projected deficit of about \$600 million this year.

Virata made the twin forecasts in a news conference at the joint annual meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund here.

During the conference, Virata also said:

--The Philippines is "trying to develop" with the World Bank two loans--one for the export development fund and the other for a structural adjustment loan for the agricultural sector.

--His country targets to receive an official development assistance amount of \$1.2 billion this year. This will come from grants, loans from governments and other multilateral financial institutions.

--"The Philippines will achieve economic recovery in 1985.

On exports, Virata said the principal products that will account for the increase will be coconut products, copper, electronics, garments and textiles.

While sugar exports have increased, he said, the upturn is relatively low and "we really cannot resolve this until the European Economic Community joins the sugar agreement."

He said the main reason for the protracted recovery period has been the drought, which brought down the country's agricultural production and which necessitated an increased importation of corn for feed of livestock.

This has been exacerbated by a "cautious and restrictive" attitude on the part of banks in the wake of the unrest caused by the assassination of former Sen Benigno Aquino Jr., he said.

Despite these, he said, "the Philippines anticipates a growth in the Gross National Product, (GNP) this year of about three percent in real terms.

"We hope that as the investigation (into the Aquino slaying) progresses, as confidence is restored, banks will be less cautious and less restrictive and we could go about commercial transactions more in a normal way," he said.

Toward the goal of full economic recovery, he said, the Philippine government is pursuing certain austerity measures.

"We have now some trade restrictions," he said, adding that there are some projects the government would not want to implement for the moment because they would mean more financing.

On the Philippines' debt servicing, Virata said the requirement next year would be the statutory 19.5 percent, or \$1.5 billion including interest. The country's total external debt, he said, is now \$17.5 billion.

Meanwhile, Virata challenged the political opposition in his country to come up with a credible alternative program of government instead of using the assassination of Aquino to further their goals.

"The opposition must rise on their own merit," Virata said, "And not use this tragic event as their political platform."

At the same time, Virata said it was "really up to President Reagan" on what to do about his scheduled visit to the Philippines.

"The invitation was extended by the Philippines," he said, "And it really is up to Mr Reagan to accept, or reject, or postpone" the trip, "or even modify his routing," Virata said.

CSO: 4200/72

RP MAY HAVE TO BUY SUGAR TO MEET EXPORT SCHEDULE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Oct 83 p 16

[Text]

NEW YORK, Sept. 30 (UPI)—Sugar traders in New York said yesterday that the Philippines may have to buy sugar in the world market to maintain its schedule of deliveries to the US and other countries.

The traders said this was because the start of the 1983-84 sugar harvest had been delayed for about one month from mid-September to mid-October.

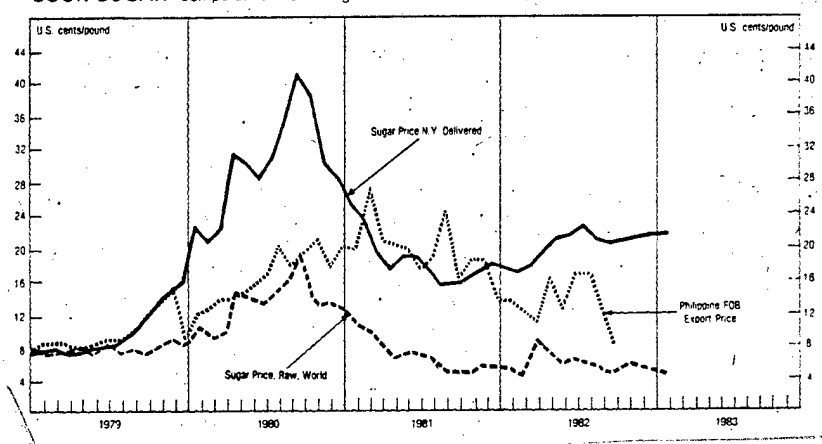
Traders said the Philippines may be forced to buy a sizeable tonnage of raw sugar from the free market.

The New York office of the Manila-based Philippine Sugar Trading Corp. (NASUTRA) had no comment on the theory circulating among traders.

But an official confirmed the country has "little" sugar in reserve for export from the old 1982-83 crop.

Trade sources said the Philippines postponed the harvest to allow time for the cane to mature following a

SOUR SUGAR Comparative World Sugar Prices (in U.S. cents/pound)



drought early this year. The crop suffered from a typhoon, and locust infestation could also hurt output, they said.

They added that four trade houses recently agreed to delay taking delivery of 300,000 metric tons of Philippine sugar until the March-May period from originally contracted October-December shipments. That sugar was earmarked for shipment to the world market.

However, the Philippines is obligated to

ship to the US during the fourth quarter of 1983 some 86,000 short tons of sugar as part of a total US supply quota of 378,000 tons. Delay in harvesting the new 1983-84 crop would disrupt the delivery schedule, traders said.

Some traders said the crop damage could be more serious than previously indicated.

Recent industry estimates pointed to a 1983-84 output of 2.2 million metric tons, down from 2.46 million MT in 1982-83.

A NASUTRA official

said it is premature to speculate on the crops, saying indications will surface "when sugar milling activity starts next month."

Talk of heavy buying by the Philippines has helped spark a robust rally of more than 1.00 cents a pound in New York world sugar futures this week.

The price recovery has been substantial in the spot October here which was depressed in recent weeks by concern over huge deliveries of sugar from Argentina.

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES NEW RICE, PALAY PRICES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Oct 83 pp 1, 14

[Article by Fred Lobo]

[Text]

Starting today, the price support for palay will be increased by 10 centavos and the price ceiling for rice by 20 centavos, the National Food Authority announced yesterday.

Food Minister Jesus Tanchanco

said that the raising of the support price for palay from P1.70 to P1.80 per kilo and the adjustment of the rice price ceiling from P3.10 to P3.30 per kilo were approved by President Marcos last July but their effectivity was postponed to October.

He said that the implementation of the new price ceiling for rice will coincide with the grant of the additional P1 wage hike starting this quarter.

The new rice price ceiling was approved by the NFA council and the Price Stabilization Council, he added.

Tanchanco said, however, that Kadiwa centers all over the country will continue to sell rice at P3.10 per

kilo in compliance with the instruction of the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos.

He explained that many consumers are likely to continue buying Kadiwa rice as price levels at traditional outlets are raised to P3.30 per kilo.

On the other hand, he said, the implementation of the new support price will help palay farmers cope with higher production cost and realize reasonable income for their produce.

He said that NFA field officers have been instructed to buy palay at P1.80 per kilo and that government procurement is expected to reach 5 million cavans from October to December.

Tanchanco said that the implementation of the new support price for palay was endorsed by the National Congress of Farmers Organization. (Fred Lobo)

CROP LOAN PLAN FAILS IN NORTHERN LUZON

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 3 Oct 83 p 40

[Article by Wilfredo R. Estolas]

[Text]

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet — Liberal credit as a means of motivating increased agricultural production on part of small farmers is not achieving the desired results in the four upland provinces of North Luzon.

Farmers in Benguet, Ifugao, Kalinga-Apayao, and Mt. Province extended production loans by government banks have become highly delinquent in the repayment of sums borrowed, according to a study conducted by the Mountain State Agricultural Colleges (MSAC) based in this municipality.

Delinquency of the farmers in the repayment of their loans has forced branches of the Philippine National Bank (PNB) and Development Bank of the Philippines in the four provinces to suspend grant of new loans.

The study, conducted by MSAC Prof. Carlos T. Buasen, cited the following reasons for the farmers' piling up arrearages on their loans:

Low crop production; crop loss due to natural calamities like typhoons and drought; use of income for family subsistence and other personal needs; bankruptcy due to high cost of borrowed capital and low market

prices of produce; use of income in non-income generating investments; use of loans for non-agricultural ventures and misuse of borrowed funds.

The study roughly divided the farmers into rice and vegetable planters, the former residing in Ifugao and Kalinga-Apayao while the latter in Benguet and Mt. Province.

It subdivided the general delinquency rate of a high 61 per cent in this manner: Mt. Province, 87 per cent; Benguet, 59 per cent; Kalinga-Apayao, 44 per cent and Ifugao, 36 per cent.

Considered significant was the higher delinquency rate of the vegetable farmers compared to the rice planters.

Intensifying competition from lowland vegetable farmers has forced the vegetable industry of the North Luzon uplands into "lean days," Buasen noted.

Delinquent borrowers interviewed complained that low crop yield was the principal reason for their inability to repay installments on their loans.

Buasen said 59 per cent of the farmers claimed that income de-

rived from their fields was barely enough for the subsistence of their families.

The low yield was attributed to farmers' lack of knowledge of modern planting methods and non-use of high yielding varieties as in the case of potatoes and insufficient farm unputs.

Remedy to the problem recommended by the study is the fielding of government agricultural extension workers to teach farmers in the four provinces modern planting practices.

It noted that while government records show such field workers have been assigned, the latter are unable to extend assistance to the farmers due to lack of funds and mobility.

The study likewise urged that banks which farm out production loans to the farmers should establish a monitoring system to insure that borrowers use the funds as intended and that the banks employ their own agricultural technicians to assist the borrowers.

The banks should also conduct seminars for the farmers to educate them on purposes of the production credit.

BILL GRANTS TAX EXEMPTION TO LAND DONORS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Oct 83 p 9

[Text] The Batasang Pambansa approved in second reading yesterday a bill which would exempt landowners from paying the donor's tax.

Covered by the bill are landowners who donate private agricultural lands or homelots to tenant-farmers and actual tillers or occupants under the government agricultural land reform program.

The exemption also applies to landowners covered by Operation Land Transfer (OLT) or their successors-in interest who waved their right to receive the whole amount or balance of compensation due them from the Land Bank of the Philippines.

The bill provides that the land should not exceed the family-size farm or homelot area defined under existing laws and the donation conforms with the land reform program.

If the land is already occupied, in no case will the occupant's security of tenure be violated. No land or homelot donated can be transferred to anybody, except by hereditary succession or to the government.

Claims for exemption will be allowed only upon certification by the Ministry of Agrarian Reform that the recipient is a tenant-farmer and actual tiller or occupant of the land donated.

Fifty percent of the market value of the property donated as determined by tax declaration one year prior to the donation will be deducted from the tenant's taxable income during the year the donation was made.

CSO: 4200/72

BRIEFS

DROUGHT SPREADS TO NORTH--Economic Planning Minister Vicente B. Valdepenas, Jr reported yesterday that drought is spreading in Cagayan Valley and Northern Luzon. Valdepenas, who is also director-general of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), made the disclosure in a press briefing on the country's economic performance during the past first semester. He quoted Agriculture Minister Arturo R. Tanco, Jr., as saying that while the drought in Mindanao and the Visayas is over, the dry spell is spreading in Cagayan Valley and Northern Luzon. Minister Tanco cannot be reached for comment as of last night. Valdepenas said the dry spell in Mindanao and Visayas is over and expects a "bumper" harvest of corn in the area. He said that because of the drought in the two major islands, agriculture, fishery, and forestry turned out to be the lagging industrial sectors during the past first semester. He did not disclose how extensive the drought is in Cagayan Valley and Northern Luzon but he said the bad weather has affected most of the croplands in the area. [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 4 Oct 83 p 24]

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR MUSLIMS--The National Manpower and Youth Council (NMYC) Region XI has started to implement the manpower skills development program for Muslims in the region. This was announced recently by NMYC regional director Jose L. Clave. Clave said that this is an offshot of a memorandum of agreement signed by his regional office and the Ministry of Muslim Affairs for Regions XI and XII-A. The agreement signed last month called for the NMYC regional office to train Muslims, particularly those out-of-school youths in building and related construction courses early this month. The NMYC conducts directly the training of the participants in accordance with the Council's prescribed training standards. It will also provide expenses for materials, tools, equipment, supplies and other necessary facilities. The ministry, on the other hand, will undertake the recruitment of Muslim trainees in Region XI. It will provide the transportation and food allowances to the trainees with a daily specific amount. (ROP) [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 3 Oct 83 p 32]

BOMB SCARE GRIPS DAVAO--Davao City--A bomb scare gripped this city yesterday as several firms and institutions received letters and telephone calls threatening to bomb their establishments. Following receipt of the bomb threats, the University of Mindanao and the Matina Central Elementary School suspended their classes. The Davao Medical Center also stopped receiving

patients for one day. Police said other establishments which received bomb threats were the Central Bank branch office, the Davao Doctors' Hospital and the NCCC department store. Col Geronima Valderrama, Davao Metro-discom commander, said that although the threats may have come from pranksters, his command is not taking the threats lightly. He has tightened up security measures by putting up mobile check points at strategic areas. Valderrama said earlier that his command has received intelligence reports that government buildings like the city hall and the PC headquarters could be the targets of terrorists. [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 2 Oct 83 p 4]

FARMERS' GROUP SUPPORT MARCOS--An officer of a farmers' organization criticized yesterday the anti-government demonstrations which hit Metro Manila during the last few weeks. Manuel B. Rotea, Sr., president of the Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Association (ARBA) which has some one million members, informed Agrarian Reform Minister Conrado Estrella that the organization's offices have been swamped with letters and telegrams denouncing the rallies and at the same time expressing "unconditional support" for President Marcos. Rotea said that the angry speeches and recourse to mob rule can not alter the course of events in the countryside where the broad masses "experience significant levels of social and economic stability which has come as a result of the government's agrarian reform program." [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Oct 83 p 36]

AMNESTY TO FATHER KANGLEON--The president has granted amnesty to a priest and two other persons accused of subversion. The presidential amnesty was granted on recommendation of Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile. Amnestied were Father Edgardo Kangleon, Antonio Asistio, and Juanito Delamida, all of whom have been charged by the military of subversion. Father Kangleon, if we recall, was the Samar priest who admitted to military probers the links between radical priests and nuns and the New People's Army in Samar. Father Kangleon also identified some of the radical priests and nuns involved in subversive activities. Asistio was included in the subversion acts as an aide to Father Kangleon in the Catbalogan social action center. [Text] [OWO81323 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1300 GMT 8 Oct 83]

WORKER LAYOFFS--The Employers Confederation of the Philippines assured yesterday that there will be no worker layoff despite the drop in the value of the peso against the dollar and the clamor for pay increases. The assurance was given by confederation president Aurelio Periquet, Jr. He said there is no plan in the industrial sector to lay off workers. According to Periquet, industry is deeply concerned over the workers' loss of purchasing power caused by the peso devaluation. He said cutting down on payroll expenses by laying off workers is not a good way of helping the people meet the new crisis. Periquet said many industries are now adopting other measures instead of laying off workers, but did not elaborate on these measures, but they include shelving plans to hire additional men, and non-replacement of workers who resign or retire. [Text] [HK130113 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 12 Oct 83]

THAILAND

LAO BORDER BOOMS IN U.S.-SUPPLIED WEAPONS; PRICES NOTED

Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 1 Jul 83 p 5

[Article by Midet Techo: "War Weapons and Trade Between the Thai and Lao Sides"]

[Text] American aid to the governments of Laos and Vietnam during the period of the war to expand American influence in Indochina in 1971-1973 resulted in many weapons of various types flowing into Indochina, including both Laos and Vietnam. Such weapons included both light and heavy weapons such as M16s, U.S. 11mm guns, M79s, M72s and anti-tank guns. Some of these are still in existence and are being sold to arms traders along the Thai-Lao border. Such trading is going on all along the Mekong River from some parts of Loei Province to Ubon Ratchathani Province.

The reason that Laos has weapons from Western countries, particularly the United States, is that Laos has changed administrative systems, changing from a free system to a socialist system. It has received many weapons as aid from other socialist countries. For example, it has received aid from East Germany and from the Soviet Union and its satellites. Because it has not been able to obtain parts to repair the weapons that the United States sent to the pro-Western Lao groups, these weapons are being sold by local officials of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to smugglers along the Thai border.

Prior to the liberation of Laos, during which the fighting was very fierce, the right-wing Lao officers who prepared reports on the shortage of weapons being experienced by their troops exaggerated the shortages. That is, there were only 160 men in a battalion, but they requested aid for 600 men. When the United States received these reports, it sent the full number of weapons that had been requested. After distributing the weapons to their subordinates, the battalion commanders kept the remaining weapons and later sold them to whoever wanted them.

This large-scale corruption engaged in by the right-wing Lao officials is one of the reasons that Laos was finally lost. Even though there are many national liberation groups, this is now just a faded dream.

The weapons still remaining in the various provinces in Laos are being sold to whoever wants them. In particular, such weapons from Vietnam are sent through Laos in order to sell them to the minority groups along the Thai-Burmese border that have become rich from trafficking in narcotics, jade and various types of gemstones that people do not have to waste time bargaining over. Traffickers can become rich from just a single transaction because this is a "sure-fire" business.

Weapons abandoned by the United States are not the only weapons that are sold. Weapons made in the Soviet Union and China are sold, too. These include B40-type RPG rockets, various models of AK47s, semiautomatic K54 pistols and various types of explosive devices. China sent these weapons to help the communist terrorists. After Laos switched and favored the socialist system of Vietnam and the Soviet Union and forced the pro-Chinese communist terrorists out of Laos, many of the weapons received from China were stored since no one knew what to use them for. The aid now being received is sufficient and so these weapons are being sold. They are transported along the Thai-Lao border to the northernmost part of Thailand where there are minority groups in Burma that need them.

In Thailand, the weapons once used by the groups that have surrendered but that did not turn over all their weapons to officials have been hidden. There are many such weapons, and many of these have been dug up and sold. Although it is thought that these weapons will soon be depleted, that is just a guess.

Concerning these weapons, since they are so readily available, they can be purchased cheaply and then resold at a high price.

Type of weapon	Purchase price in Laos	Sales price on Thai border
M16	400-500	1,800 baht
M79	900	2,700 baht
U.S. Army (11mm)	800-1,800	6,000 baht
M79 shells	50	160 baht
M26 grenades	20-25	50 baht

The price for weapons from the socialist countries, such as AK rifles, is similar. In some cases, they are cheaper than weapons from the United States.

If the weapons can be smuggled from the [Lao] border to the Thai-Burmese border, their price increases greatly in accord with the monetary trend and the ease in smuggling them past officials. For example:

From 2,700 baht, the cost of an M79 sold to a minority group increases to 7,000-8,000 baht.

Similarly, the cost of an M16 increases from 500 baht to 3,500-4,500 baht. That for a U.S. 11mm gun increases from 6,000 baht to 10,000 baht.

How are such weapons transported into Thailand?

Some are brought in by sampans that secretly cross the Mekong River. The major dealers and capitalists obtain one or two weapons from the small traders and from villagers living along the banks of the Mekong River. When they have the number needed, which is at least 90 weapons, or 90 items, they immediately make preparations to ship them north.

One weapons trader who was arrested and sentenced to 20-30 years in prison has revealed the important purchase points, where the terrain is favorable and where the merchants come to make purchases. These are:

1. In Tha Bo District, Nong Khai Province.
2. In Tha Uthen District, Nakhon Phanom Province.
3. In Muong District, Muk Da Han Province.
4. In Don Tan District, Muk Da Han Province.
5. In Khemarat District, Ubon Ratchathani Province.

The weapons are transported through interior provinces such as Udorn Thani, Khon Kaen, Phitsanulok and Tak or to the northernmost region.

From Muk Da Han, they are transported through Yosothon Province and Borabu and Ban Phai in Khon Kaen Province. In moving to the north, they pass through Phetchabun to a prearranged meeting point on the Burmese border.

They are transported in cars. A pickup truck or a passenger car is used to drive ahead to check on the activities of officials in order to find out which checkpoints make careful inspections, how many officials are on duty and what their rank is. Sometimes they pay a bribe to get past the checkpoint just as is done in selling marihuana. Sometimes they hide the weapons in types of cargo trucks that officials are too lazy to unload and search, such as trucks that transport bananas, the smelly trucks that evacuate the waste from toilets and oil tankers. They are even hidden in the gasoline tanks, or red tanks as they are called, of pickup trucks or other trucks that have been modified to form two separate compartments in which the weapons can conveniently be placed.

The problem in suppressing this is that there are not enough officials. Sometimes, state officials engage in this trade themselves or cooperate with the merchants, thinking only of the profits to be made. The length of the Mekong River from Loei Province to Ubon Ratchani Province is at least 850 kilometers. Thus, it is difficult to inspect things. Sometimes, when inspections are made in the north, the weapons are smuggled in through the south. If inspections are made in the south, the weapons are brought in through the north. And sometimes, they are brought in through points least expected, that is, through the checkpoints themselves. Such smuggling occurs quite frequently. This is because this trade requires little investment and profits are large, or even tremendous.

As for the damage to national security, by allowing Thais who live along the border to smuggle [weapons] across the border easily, Laos is hoping to gain politically in obtaining intelligence from the Thai side by using these smugglers as a united front. If [smugglers] come to the Lao side, they must have something to exchange from the Thai side.

However, smuggling is a very complex operation because of the financial power of the employers and buyers. This is because money is the thing that is desired the most in a society competing for wealth. Some people command great respect in society but beneath the surface is another matter. They will do anything. They even sell weapons that are later used to kill other Thais.

11943

CSO: 4207/170

THAILAND

RECON REGIMENT PROPOSED ; CURRENT DEFICIENCIES NOTED

Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 28 Jun 83 p 2

[Article: "Cavalry Holds Major Seminar, Requests to Form Reconnaissance Regiment"]

[Text] The cavalry is preparing to ask permission to establish a reconnaissance regiment, which would serve as an important factor in national defense.

A news report from the Cavalry Center states that on 23-24 June, the Saraburi Cavalry Center held a seminar that was attended by officers from the 1st and 2nd cavalry divisions. The purpose of this was to [discuss ways to] improve the cavalry in order to make it an efficient branch of the service. Besides this, at present, the various cavalry units are not arranged in the same way. It was necessary to discuss what action to take so that the existing cavalry units will all be alike. Besides this, if a new cavalry division is formed, it will have to have the same form, too.

A news source said that at present, the existing cavalry units include the 1st and 2nd cavalry divisions. As for forming a new force, the objective of the cavalry units is to defend Thailand from outside invasion. But concerning the formation of the forces at present, the 2nd Cavalry Division is a fully mechanized division and is ready to carry on operations to defend the country from outside invasion. As for the 1st Cavalry Division, it is still a light armored division, and its main forces are regional infantrymen. At the seminar, this matter was certainly discussed in order to turn the 1st Cavalry Division into a full-strength cavalry unit.

The news source also said that at present, the Thai army still lacks a reconnaissance regiment at the cavalry division level. This unit will be a rapid-deployment unit. It will have long-range communications capabilities that will enable it to contact other provinces. Besides this, there must be artillery-equipped tanks or motorized vehicles that can serve as offensive weapons. At this seminar, a proposal was certainly made to form a reconnaissance unit at the regimental level. This is something that has been discussed for several years now. The problem is that this will cost a lot of money.

11943

CSO: 4207/170

THAILAND

COLUMNIST NOTES CORRUPTION, DESERTION IN MILITARY

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 28 Jul 83 p 3

[Cutting Firewood to Make a Fire column by O Bangphlat: "Desertion"]

[Text] What I am writing about today does not concern anyone I know since all my friends and relatives went into the service when they were drafted. No one who was drafted has deserted.

The reason that I am writing about desertion today is that I received a letter from the parents of a soldier who deserted telling me about what had happened. Thus, I would like to pass along this story to General Athit Kamlangek so that he can verify what happened. If it is true, stern measures should be taken. If it's not true, the matter can be dropped.

The story is as follows:

In the letter, this person stated that his son had deserted before 5 April 1982, which entitles him to be granted amnesty. But the problem is that after he deserted, his unit refused to list him as a deserter.

Then, much later, government officials granted an amnesty to all deserters and so his name was hurriedly added to the list of deserters. But... the names of the deserters were not checked and yet the salaries of the deserters were still paid. That is, his name was added to the list of deserters at the end of 1982. This caused trouble for him.

As for his allowance and salary, he did not give any thought to this because he had deserted. It didn't matter to him who took it. But what troubled him was that those who took his money smeared him. That is, in the list of deserters, they wrote that he had deserted at the end of 1982, which was after the 5 April 1982 cutoff that would have made him eligible for a pardon.

And what is even worse is that besides the fact that he lost his right to receive a pardon, his unit imprisoned him and kept him in chains in prison. After that, he was brought to trial and charged with having deserted after 5 April 1982. That was very unfair to him.

Concerning this matter, if the RTA CINC would like proof of this, the evidence is this unit's ledgers concerning payment of allowances and salaries. Because after he deserted, he certainly would not have returned to sign for his allowance and salary. Since he was not listed as a deserter, it means that all the signatures, starting from the day he deserted, are forgeries. Thus, the salary ledgers referred to above are thought to be important evidence that will definitely show exactly when this soldier deserted.

11943

CSO: 4207/170

THAILAND

MOBILIZATION OF RESERVISTS FOR TRAINING NOTED

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 27 Jul 83 pp 3, 10

[Article: "Reserve Non-Commissioned Officers Refuse to Come for Training"]

[Text] Concerning calling up soldiers for military training exercises in 1983, which were held during March and April 1983, 92.55 percent of the reservists called reported in at the time and place stipulated. The army has rewarded these reservists for their good qualities and sacrifices by promoting the reserve commissioned officers and non-commissioned officers one grade. And it is the army's policy to give a promotion each time they are called for military training.

As for the reservists who failed to heed, or resisted, the call for military training, approximately 7.45 percent were reserve non-commissioned officers.

his shows that these people lack a sense of responsibility concerning the duties of reservists in maintaining Thailand's independence and sovereignty. They were not willing to sacrifice their personal happiness for the benefit of all. Therefore, the army has ordered that the units concerned track down these people and prosecute them in accord with the law. At present, five of these people have been found. They will be prosecuted in accord with Article 46 of the 1954 Military Service Act, which calls for a sentence of from 3 months to 4 years in prison.

However, the reservists who did not report for training may have various reasons for failing to do so and may not have intended to avoid or resist the call up. Thus, it is requested that these reservists quickly contact the army district to which they are subordinate in order to state the reason for their failure to report for training so that the matter can be handled in the most appropriate way.

11943

CSO: 4207/170

THAILAND

TROOPS RECLAIM LAND FOR FARMERS ON PRK BORDER

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 18 Jul 83 pp 1, 2

[Article: "Soldiers Provide Protection for Border Farm Work"]

[Text] The 2nd Division is helping to reclaim land and plant crops like before along the border. They have asked the owners of the land to return and have distributed rice seed for planting. This is land that has been left fallow ever since Pol Pot encroached across the border and created so much trouble that the people had to abandon their homes. Huge border markers are being erected to demarcate Thai territory.

A DAO SIAM reporter in Aranyaprathet has reported that at 0830 hours on 17 July, Major General Prachum Phibunphanuwat, the commander of the 2nd Division, Colonel Manat Aramsi, the commander of the 21 Regiment, and a group of high-ranking officers invited reporters from all branches of the mass media to travel to the border in Ta Phraya District, Prachinburi Province, to see the farmers sow rice seed on 4,000 rai of land that had been left fallow. On that day, Major General Prachum took them to visit Thap Set Commune in Ta Phraya District. There is about 1,000 rai of farmland here that is situated along the border.

The commander of the 2nd Division told the reporters that the farmland in this area has been left lying fallow for more than 10 years. This occurred because of the danger from the fighting along the Thai border. After Pol Pot took control of the Khmer Rouge, there were frequently raids against the farmers, villagers and government officials. Now, Vietnam has seized power in Kampuchea instead. But the Thai people have still not been able to return to their former homes. Thus, this year, the 2nd Division, which was well aware of this, implemented a policy of helping the Thais who own this fallow land return and make use of their land. Thus, it has suggested that the farmers return to their old homes and work the land that has been left fallow.

Major General Prachum said that in having the people return to their former homes, the 2nd Division has assigned military units to provide protection from the various armed forces that might come to cause trouble. In farming the fields, the people should plant fields parallel to the irrigation canal (the old strategic canal). Besides this, the 2nd Division

has procured rice seed and distributed it to the people. Colonel Manat said that besides working the rice fields, the 2nd Division has procured approximately 13,000 fast-growing trees that will be planted along the banks of the irrigation canal. These trees include "Krathin Narong" and "Kaen Si Siet." These will afford protection in searching for foreign forces when there is fighting, and they will provide shade for the farmers so that they can rest after working hard. And it will be difficult for the enemy to hide.

The commander of the 2nd Division also said that at present, the 21st Infantry Regiment is implementing a policy of building large cement border markers that are 10 meters long, 3 meters high and 1.5 meters thick. These large border markers will be erected along the Thai-Kampuchean border in order to indicate to foreign armed forces that this is Thai territory. A Thai flag will be painted on the markers and the word "Thailand" will be written in Thai and English. Erecting these markers was the idea of the 2nd Division. Lieutenant Colonel Narongdet Nanthaphonthidet, the commander of the 21st Battalion, will be entrusted with carrying out this task quickly. This is being done because the present border markers are too small. This may result in foreign forces making a mistake and this could lead to an international dispute. However, the funds for carrying this out are limited and so things must be done gradually. In conclusion, Major General Prachum said that the program of the 2nd Division will enable the farmers to work the fields right up to the border markers.

11943

CSO: 4207/170

VILLAGERS SAY LAO REFUGEES INVOLVED IN ROBBERIES

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 15 Jul 83 pp 7, 10

[Article: "Lao Refugees Boldly Cross Into Thailand, Gather Weapons and Go Back to Stir Up Trouble"]

[Text] Police Sub-Lieutenant Dokrak Onkun, the head of the Special Outer Inspection Team at the Nakhon Phanom provincial police station in Muang District, was informed by villagers from Dong Mu Village in Tha Kho Commune, Muang District, Nakhon Phanom Province, that many Lao people have been gathering together and that they are probably up to no good. They asked that he go conduct a search. Police Sub-Lieutenant Dokrak Onkun reported this to Police Major Thawiphon Namsathien, the inspector at the Nakhon Phanom provincial police station in Muang District. Together with five police officials, including Police Master Sergeant Surachai Thongdet, Police Master Sergeant Sun Sukwichin, Police Master Sergeant Chamlong Sibanchun, "D.T." Kalai Kaeobutrata and Police Lance Corporal Kiattiphithakchai Supha, he went and patrolled the area around Dong Mu Village in Tha Kho Commune, Muang District, Nakhon Phanom Province. They found two men resting on top of a hut near the jungle. Two water buffalo were tied near the two men. Police Sub-Lieutenant Dokrak Onkun and his men went and conducted a search. But suddenly, the two men scrambled up and started shooting at the officials with AK and M16 rifles. They then jumped down from the hut and fled into the jungle, periodically firing at the officials. After Police Sub-Lieutenant Dokrak and his men succeeded in seizing the hut, he sent a team to follow the bandits. But just as they were leaving, about four other bandits attacked them with strong weapons in an attempt to take back the hut. Police Sub-Lieutenant Dokrak saw that the situation was critical and that he was at a disadvantage since his weapons were inferior. Thus, he quickly radioed Police Major Thawiphon Namsathien, the inspector at the Nakhon Phanom provincial police station in Muang District, and asked for reinforcements. The inspector mobilized another 10 men to go provide support in the clash with these bandits. The people then fled in the direction of Muong Kao and Ban Na Luong in Tha Kho Commune, Muang District, Nakhon Phanom Province, and managed to escape.

Inspecting the hut, the officials found two sawed-off shotguns and 12-gauge ammunition, one AK rifle, two M29 grenades, one sword, 20 small boxes of mentholated ointment, Lao amulets, backpacks, a jungle outfit and the two water buffalo that the Lao bandits had been taking across the border. All of this was confiscated as evidence and taken to the Nakhon Phanom provincial police station in Muang District. And a report was submitted to higher echelons.

After things returned to normal, villagers in that area revealed that Lao refugees frequently cause problems. Sometimes, they threaten the villagers with weapons and force the villagers to give them food and drink or other necessities. But the thing that they cannot put up with is that these refugees like to steal their cattle and buffalos, and this causes many problems for them. Now that the police have made patrols and reduced the influence of these people, the villagers feel better.

11943

CSO: 4207/170

THAILAND

REPORTERS SEE PRK BORDER DEMARCATION, REFUGEE EVACUATION

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 18 Jul 83 pp 1, 16

[Article: "Large Border Markers Built to Separate Thailand From Kampuchea. These Are 10 Meters Long and Can Be Used For Protection"]

[Text] The military took reporters to observe the situation along the Kampuchean border. New border markers will be built. These will be large and strong and clearly demarcate Thai territory. Khmer refugees have been evacuated from the old camp so as not to provide Vietnam and Heng Samrin with an excuse for launching an attack and violating Thai territory.

At 0830 hours on 17 July, Major General Prachum Phibunphanuwat, the commander of the 2nd Infantry Division, and a group of high-ranking military officers and administrative officials took reporters to see the crop cultivation and afforestation project in the area of the irrigation canal (the strategic canal) at Ban Ta Phraya in Ta Phraya District, Prachinburi Province. In an interview, he said that at present, the situation along the Thai-Kampuchean border is normal. Also, it is still the rainy season and so the 2nd Division has turned to providing help to the people who live along the border, especially those in Ta Phraya District and in some areas of Aranyaprathet District.

The project was launched at Ban Ta Phraya near Thai-Kampuchean border demarcation point 36 and in front of Ban Khok Thahan in Ta Phraya District. These areas have not been able to plant crops since 1975 because of the fighting in Kampuchea. At present, Thais are being allowed to plant crops here. The size of the area being cultivated is 1,000 rai; this will gradually be expanded since the irrigation canal is about 2-3 kilometers from the demarcation line. As for other areas, some areas are encountering problems. For example, both sides set mines and the engineers have not yet removed these. Also, there is still the problem of the 100,000 Khmer refugees who fled here to escape the fighting.

The last problem concerns the areas that the military must protect for strategic purposes, such as in areas where Vietnamese soldiers are located, in order to protect the country. Allowing people to go in and plant crops here will clearly announce to other countries that the land along the irrigation canal is Thai territory. This will put indirect pressure on

the Khmer refugees. Also, it will inform the Khmer coalition forces, Vietnam and Heng Samrin that this is Thai territory so that they cannot claim that they invaded Thailand because there was no clear border marker.

The military here has recommended to higher echelons that a buffer marker be built along the Thai border so that it is clearly visible. But at present, this cannot be done since it is feared that this would create problems between the two countries. Both countries would have to send officials to conduct a joint survey and reach an agreement. For example, in some areas there is no natural demarcation line such as a river, mountain or canal. As for the old border demarcation stakes used during the time of Prince Sihanouk, some are 10 kilometers apart. The Thai military, using the 21st Infantry Regiment, will begin building border markers known as "shields for checkpoint forces." These will be built using steel-reinforced concrete. They will be 10 meters long, 3 meters tall and 1.5 meters thick. These will have clear markings, such as the national flag and writing in Thai, Khmer, Vietnamese and English, that indicate that this is Thai territory. Construction will begin at the end of this month in the area of responsibility of the 2nd Battalion, 21st Regiment, which is commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Narongdet Naphothidet.

As for planting rice or trees, soldiers have been sent to watch over things and provide help in order to maintain security. Besides this, the 2nd Division has entrusted Special Colonel Manat Aramsi, the commander of the 21st Regiment, with the task of helping the people obtain water since there is a severe shortage of water for consumption and use in most areas of Ta Phraya District. Water tanks will be built in the villages and at the schools. Activities will be coordinated with the Irrigation Department to build large water reservoirs in accord with the development project conceived of by the king in such places as Ban Thap Siem, Ban Chiang Dam and Ban Ta Phraya in Ta Phraya District. These will also be used to raise fresh-water fish.

Major General Prachum stressed that the mass media has an important role to play in publicizing the water problem. Once the people have water sources, they will be able to grow crops and raise animals. If long-term results are to be achieved, it means that the government will have to invest another several hundred million baht. Once canals have been built to bring water from the Yang or Lam Saton rivers and the people have land to farm, they will not migrate elsewhere, and this will be good for national security.

As for the matter of the United Nations and Thailand's Special Military Unit 80 cooperating to move the 25,000 Khmer refugees from the Prey Chan camp, which is located across from Nong Samet in Khok Sung Commune, Ta Phraya District, the first 1,600 refugees were moved during the period 9-14 July. This was then stopped temporarily since the Khmer refugees were afraid that they would not be able to go engage in trade inside Kampuchea. Thus, some of the refugees became obstinate and fled to other

camps. Thus, there are about 17,000 Khmer refugees left in this camp. U.N. officials and officials from Special Unit 80 have to complete the transfer of these refugees and so they have had to send officials to explain the advantages and disadvantages to the civilian Khmer leaders.

As for moving Khmer refugees to the area directly opposite Ban San Rochangan, which is 40 kilometers north of the original point, they will be safe there from attack by the Vietnamese and various countries will provide food and medical aid as usual. As for the disadvantage in remaining where they are, this would be very dangerous since more than 70,000 Kampucheans are living close to each other, that is, in Nong Samet and Nong Chan. Vietnam and Heng Samrin could use this as an excuse to attack them since it is believed that the Kampucheans are supporting the Khmer coalition. Thus, [Vietnam] might have to send forces to eliminate them. And when there are large concentrations of people, the food and medical aid will not reach everyone. A military news source confirmed that the transfer of the remaining 17,000 refugees must definitely be completed by the end of this month. Because at present, at the new camp, international aid organizations have brought in building materials for houses, food and water tanks and roads for sending in aid [have been built].

This new camp to which all the Khmer refugees will be moved by the end of the month is located 1 kilometer inside Kampuchea. The Nong Samet Camp, which is 1 kilometer north of the Prey Chan Camp, presently has about 50,000 refugees. The Thai military will have to put pressure on them to move deeper into Kampuchea for the safety of the Thai people who live along the border and for the security of the nation. There are no foreign armed forces based along the border inside Thailand as Vietnam has charged. The only foreigners here are Kampuchean refugees who have fled the war. Thailand has given humanitarian aid to these people.

11943

CSO: 4207/171

THAILAND

CURFEW ORDERED IN YALA

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 16 Jul 83 pp 1, 16

[Article: "Things Are Dangerous In Yala"]

[Text] The Fourth Army Area, in cooperation with Civil-Police-Military Unit 43 and the Yala Provincial Peacekeeping Council, has ordered that the people are to observe a curfew from 2100 to 0400 hours from 15 July until further orders are issued.

This was stated in a report issued by the Yala Provincial Peacekeeping Council. It claimed that this curfew has been ordered in order to maintain order in the area, preserve the peace, suppress the criminals and prevent the enemy from infiltrating the area. And in order to prevent misunderstandings with the people, it has been necessary to order this curfew.

As for the areas affected by this curfew, it applies to localities in three districts: Muang District: Ban Ba Ngoi Yura, Ban Ta Lo Rimu, Ban Rano, Ban Sa-Enai, Ban Sa-Enok and Ban Ta Lo Sato in Village 1 in Sa-E Commune; Ban Bu Nae Lalae, Ban Phe Chaeng, Ban Batu Biala and Ban Charo Sibbo in Village 2 in Sa-E Commune; and villages suspected of providing supplies to the enemy.

Yaha District: Ban Bayo in Village 1, Ban Buneng in Village 2, Ban Sapong and Ban Krusong in Village 3, Ban Khoromae, Ban Ubeng and Ban Mabae in Village 4, Ban Mu Bapa and Ban Bachu in Village 5, Ban Muong Labu in Village 8, and Ban Lak Khet in Village 9 in Pa Tae Commune; Ban Nattapae and Ban Cho Bu Noyo in Village 1, Ban Yunang, Ban Ba Ngoi and Ban Poyo in Village 9, Ban Bala in Village 5 and Ban Lalae and Ban Si Sip in Village 6 in Kabang Commune.

Ban Bang Sata District: Ban Bango Chaeko, Ban Burapo, Ban Diya Hayi, Ban Charo Busa, Ban Buko Buso and Ban Lak Khet in Village 8 in Ban Bang Sata Commune; Ban Thamthalu in Village 1 in Thamthalu Commune; and the mine workers at all 10 mines in the area of Ban Thamthalu in Thamthalu Commune, Ban Nang Sata District.

The news report stated that yesterday evening, Lieutenant Colonel Wisut Samaothong, the assistant chief of operations in the Phatthalung Provincial ISOC, brought in a leading communist terrorist, who surrendered to the deputy director for military affairs of communist suppression operations in Phatthalung Province.

The man who surrendered was Mr Pha Sangtan, [alias] Chetnियom, Lee, Phoem, Fuong or Somplong, age 45. He was born at 105 Village 2 in Ban Na commune, Muang Distirct, Phatthalung Province. He fled into the jungle 17 years ago. He was the head of the Zone 2/1 Thai People's Liberation Armed Forces in Songkhla Province. After he was taken into custody, he was sent to the Karunthep Center, Phatthalung Provincial ISOC, that same day for further handling of the case.

11943

CSO: 4207/171

EDITORIAL DISCUSSES PEASANT LANDLESSNESS

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 29 Jul 83 p 4

[Editorial: "People Have Land But Do Not Work It"]

[Text] There have been reports that at the conference held by the Ministry of Interior on 29 June, which was chaired by General Sitthi Chirarot, the minister of interior, and which was attended by all three deputy ministers and the directors-general of various departments, the Advisory Team to the Ministry of Interior presented "7 problems" for discussion. These seven problems are all equally important, but here we will discuss the economic problems and the problem of earning a living.

Concerning the economic problems and the problem of making a living, the Advisory Team felt that most of the people, especially those who live in rural areas, still have problems concerning selling their produce at low prices. And what is important is that "they lack land to work." About 15 million people are experiencing this problem. And this problem will become more and more serious unless resolute measures are taken to solve it. This is because the population growth rate is high. In particular, in 1979-1980, the rate was 2.33 percent per year. This is why land ownership among farmers has declined.

Actually, the problem of people not having any land of their own to work is not a new problem. But the problems raised by the Advisory Team to the Ministry of Interior may be new because of the increase in the severity of the problem. This shows that while this problem was recognized in the past, nothing much was done to solve it. For example, in allotting land for farming, instead of allotting land based on a philosophy of land allotment, jungle and mountain land was given to the people, with those responsible then claiming that land had been allotted and that there had been a land reform.

Concerning the present land problem in Thailand, the important problem is that "people have land but do not work it." They act like a "dog in a manger." Thus, to solve this problem, this is the thing that must be stressed. And it would not be difficult to solve this problem using land

reform measures in accord with the laws that have been promulgated. That is, the amount of land that people in various occupations can own should be set at an appropriate level. In this case, the only important problem is whether we will solve the problem or not. This is the most important problem. Will we continue to allow parasites to live off the land without having to work?

11943

CSO: 4207/171

THAILAND

POLICE INVOLVED IN KHMER SERI WEAPONS TRAFFICKING

Weapons Sold to Karen Insurgents

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 28 Jul 83 p 2

[Article: "Orders Given to Suspend Police Officials Involved In Selling Weapons to Karens; Involvement of High-Ranking Officials Denied"]

[Text] The commissioner of the Provincial 1 has ordered the suspension of three police privates who sold weapons. He said that no high-ranking police officers were involved. The chief inspector in Ta Phraya was ordered to be strict with his subordinates and to find out who was behind this.

Concerning the arrest of police officials from the Prachinburi Provincial Police Station in Ta Phraya District, the first officials arrested were Police Private Samruai Khokom and Police Private Sanghiem Phromchai. Later on, Police Private Kamphon Limpawanit was arrested. Concerning the sale of the war weapons, Police Lieutenant General Choncharoen Sombatsiri, the commissioner of the Provincial 1, said that the three suspects belonged to the same group of weapons traffickers. Police officials learned that they were going to take weapons that they had purchased from the Khmer Seri and sell them to Karens along the Thai-Burmese border.

The reporter asked why so many police officials were involved in selling weapons and whether high-ranking officers were involved. Police Lieutenant General Choncharoen said that only low-ranking police officials were involved. Their superiors knew nothing about this. However, the chief inspector at the Ta Phraya District police station has been ordered to be especially strict with his subordinates.

Police Lieutenant General Choncharoen also said that all three of these police privates have been dismissed from government service. As for who was in back of the sale of these weapons, an investigation is now being conducted in order to find out who directed this.

Ammunition Seized

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 27 Jun 83 pp 1, 14

[Article: "About 10,000 Rounds of AK Ammunition Seized; Police Again"]

[Text] A police private and two civilians were arrested for transporting more than 8,000 rounds of ammunition from Sarakaeo in Prachinburi in order to sell it along the Burmese border. The police private cried, saying that he was not involved and had only been riding in the vehicle.

A MATICHON reporter reported that at 0800 hours on 24 June, Police Captain Withaya Kaset, the inspector at the Prachinburi Provincial Police Station in Aranyaprathet District and the head of the Special Investigation Team at the provincial police station in Aranyaprathet District, and members of the special investigation team followed a blue pickup truck from Suwannason Highway in Aranyaprathet District to Sarakaeo District, where they signaled it to stop. They did this because they had learned that this vehicle was transporting weapons from the Prachinburi border to the Burmese border, where the weapons were to be sold. When this vehicle stopped, the police officials conducted a search and found 8,200 rounds of AK ammunition. Thus, they took the occupants of the vehicle to the provincial police station in Aranyaprathet District for interrogation.

During the interrogation, Mr Chalong Duangdet and Mr Somsri Phunsuk confessed that they had purchased this AK ammunition along the border in Ta Phraya District at a cost of 1 baht per round. They were going to sell it along the Burmese border for 7 baht per round. As for Police Private Kamphon Limpawanit, who is stationed at the provincial police station in Ta Phraya District and who was arrested at the same time, he said that he was returning to his home in Ratburi Province and so he flagged down this vehicle [for a ride].

However, police officials at the Aranyaprathet police station have detained all three for further handling of the case.

11943

CSO: 4207/171

THAILAND

BRIEFS

MILITARY DESERTERS RETURN--The secretary of the army has reported that 46,726 deserters have reported in in accord with the Military Amnesty Act. There are still about 20,000 who have not reported in. The army issued an amnesty for deserters, who were required to report to the army in order to have them taken off the rolls or else return to duty as usual. In accord with this act, many deserters reported in as was reported by officials. The final day for reporting in was 19 July 1983. Colonel Naritdon Detchapadiyut, the secretary of the army, has added up the figures on the number of deserters who reported back to the army and turned the figures over to General Athit Kamlangek, the RTA CINC. The total number of deserters was 65,003. A total of 46,726 reported back. Of these 19,319 were soldiers from the First Army Area; 14,575 were from the Second Army Area; 16,334 were from the Third Army Area; and 4,787 were from the Fourth Army Area. Another 1,711 were directly subordinate to the army. At present, there are 18,271 deserters who have not reported back. [Text] [Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 23 Jul 83 pp 1, 16] 11943

ATHIT DEDICATES SARIT MONUMENT--General Athit Kamlangek, the RTA CINC, presided over a ceremony to dedicate and lay the foundation stone of the Field Marshal Sarit Thanarat monument in the Suan Ratchadanuson area in front of the Khon Kaen Provincial Civil Administration Headquarters Building. This monument was built by government officials in cooperation with merchants and other people on the occasion of the 200th Rattanakosin celebrations. This is in accord with the government's policy of publicizing the good qualities of people who have done things of benefit to the nation. Officials in Khon Kaen considered this and felt that Field Marshal Sarit Thanarat, the former prime minister, was a person truly worthy of being honored. He was a person who understood the problems and underdevelopment of the northeast and so he took resolute steps to make plans and develop [the region]. It was stipulated that Khon Kaen Province was to be the center of the development. The statue is 2 meters tall and is somewhat taller than the actual person. The figure is shown wearing a full-dress uniform. [Excerpt] [Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thailand 19 Jul 83 pp 2, 3] 11943

CSO: 4207/170

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

CATHOLIC PRIESTS PUNISHED FOR 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY PROPAGANDA ACTIVITIES'

Hanoi DAI DOAN KET in Vietnamese No 16, 3 Aug 83 pp 6-7, 14

[Article by Tran Mai: "Thoughts on a Court Case"]

[Text] The chief justice of the Ho Chi Minh Municipal People's Court pronounced the judgment of the culprits charged with conspiring to overthrow the administration and carrying out counterrevolutionary propaganda activities.

The court session thus ended. But thoughts continued to revolve in my head and in the minds of people who had attended the court session and who were standing in groups of five or seven persons, waiting for the rain to pass off. The question raised from this trial is not only the degree of severity of the sentence handed down by the court to each culprit but, in my opinion, more importantly and necessarily, the way each of us views the criminal acts of the convicts. Only if this is done can each court verdict become a lesson on vigilance and a mirror which reflects negative acts and in which everyone should look at himself. Perception is a process of consciousness--a struggle within each individual to dissect, analyze, compare and ponder things to find the truth. However, it is very difficult to recognize the truth because it is sometimes hidden behind so many different phenomena. I thought about the fact that the Vatican ordered priest Nguyen Cong Doan to go home on 25 April 1975 to assume the post of provincial director of the "Arrow" [Teen] [allusion to the arrow piercing Christ's heart and representing His anguish and sufferings] Monastic Order in Vietnam in time on 29 April 1975 to replace the former provincial director--an Italian priest called Sesto Quersetti alias Hoang Van Luc--and to sever the Vietnamese "Arrow" Monastic Order from the Chinese Monastic Order Province (composed of China, Taiwan, Hongkong, Thailand, Singapore, Laos and Kampuchea) and directly subordinate it to Rome.

Why did such a change in the organization and personnel of the "Arrow" Monastic Order not take place at any other time but right on those seething days when South Vietnam was about to be liberated? Was this act--which was extremely urgent but which also represented a passive measure against the unexpectedly rapid change in South Vietnam at that time--merely fortuitous or dictate by a strategic policy? No, it could by no means occur by chance! For even Nguyen Cong Doan could not refrain from partly revealing the reason for such a policy--even though it might seem superficial (and, moreover, very meek)--when he said:

--Faced with the prospect of imminent collapse of the Saigon administration and the victory of the revolution, the higher authorities in our monastic order deemed it necessary to effect a personnel replacement because it would not be wise to keep a foreigner at the head of the "Arrow" Monastic Order.

The Vietnamese Monastic Region was formerly directly subordinate to the Chinese Monastic Province with its seat in Taiwan. However, seeing that the revolution had won victory [In Vietnam] and that the two countries adhered to two different ideologies, our higher authorities found it inconvenient to keep the Vietnamese "Arrow" Monastic Order directly subordinate to the Chinese Order as in the past; consequently, they decided to subordinate our order directly to Rome.

In my opinion, it is very necessary to trace this affair back to its source in order to correctly understand the nature of the acts with a common trend of the people at the Dac Lo Center which Nguyen Cong Doan, after accepting the post of director of the "Arrow" Monastic Order, chose as the main office of his monastic order. Doan's first act was to turn the Dac Lo Monastery into a parish church. By using rather attractive forms of activity, the Dac Lo Center drew large numbers of Catholics--especially young intellectual Catholics--to attend the Masses.

But how should we understand the fact that the priests named Le Thanh Que, Khuat Duy Linh, Do Quang Chinh, Nguyen Cong Doan, etc., while preaching the religious dogma, interspersed their sermons with concepts and thoughts which were not only different from but also contrary to those under a socialist regime. Apart from these sermons, the responsible persons at the Dac Lo Center also organized there many briefing sessions and seminars on cultural and sociological subject matters. Priest Pham Huu Lai, secretary general of the consultative council of the "Arrow" Monastic Order, was mainly in charge of such sessions and seminars. Lai used the themes of two books titled "Violet-Painted School Gate" [Coongr Truwongf Vooi Tims] by Nha Ca and "Don't Leave Me Alone" [Dquwngf Bor Em Mootj Minh] by Nhat Giang as topics of the debates. We have the right to wonder why the Dac Lo people introduced allegations contrary to the revolutionary administration's policy into their religious sermons and why they induced the catholic youths to discuss the dead-end, depraved topics gleaned from two books which were written by two renowned penny-a-liners under the former U.S.-puppet regime and of which the circulation had long been prohibited by the revolutionary administration.

But we must also think more about the reason Doan transformed the Dac Lo Monastery into a parish church. A monastery is a place where clergymen study the religious dogma and give assistance to priests but do not preach religion and where catholics do not come to attend the Masses; if so, how could contacts, preachings and gatherings have been made and how could forces have been built up, especially with regard to young intellectual Catholics--the principal target which Doan and the people at the Dac Lo Center wanted very much to aim at?

To my way of thinking, that was precisely the real scheme of the Dac Lo Center people.

What Else?

Those were not the only activities carried out at the Dac Lo Center. It was precisely there that under Nguyen Cong Doan's direction, the leading body of the "Arrow" Monastic Order in Vietnam published the newspaper DAO NHAP THE [Religion Comes Into This World] without previously applying for the administration's authorization. This newspaper had a 21 X 27-cm format and each copy had 15 to 20 pages. Each edition comprised 300 copies which were distributed to priests, clergymen and selected Catholics residing from Hue to the south and were simultaneously and clandestinely sent abroad. Nguyen Cong Doan presided over a meeting of the consultative council of the "Arrow" Monastic Order in Dac Lo to discuss and decide to publish a newspaper as an official organ of the monastic order. Doan appointed priest Le Thanh Que editor in chief in charge of all tasks involved in printing and publication. At first, Doan directly managed the newspaper and edited articles but afterward handed over to his assistant--priest Do Quang Chinh--the task of editing articles before printing them. Le Thanh Que was the principal writer. Articles were contributed by other priests and clergymen such as Hoang Kim Khanh, Nguyen Van Hoang, Hoang Van Dat and Dinh Trong Nghia. The publication of the newspaper was suspended after the 54th issue.

The articles published in the newspaper DAO NHAP THE dealt with the religious dogma but their contents were interspersed with allegations which distorted the lines and policies of the revolutionary administration and criticized the party and state in a subtle, discreet and ambiguous manner with the use of double entendres; however, there were also sentences and passages which were blunt and peremptory and which even stirred up people and called for the overthrow of the revolutionary administration. Let us select some passages. Speaking of the trials of some people who conspired against the revolutionary administration such as the case of Nguyen Van Vang (Allied Front of Anti-communist Religions) [Maatj Traanj Lieen Toon Choongs Coong] and that of the Vinh Son Church, Que distorted the truth and held that the administration fabricated these court cases to repress Catholicism (!) when he wrote: "Such was a tribunal set up by human beings; it was the voice of justice and simultaneously the arrogant laugh of a cruel and cunning power" (page 451, issue No 12). In another passage, Que called for the overthrow of the administration: "The way must be paved for God's arrival by knocking down and abolishing all injustices and oppressions..." (page 1,270). The newspaper DAO NHAP THE distorted the party and state policy of freedom of belief. Hoang Kim Khanh, Que's secretary, wrote: "Though there is a freedom of belief as stipulated in the constitution, religion has been criticized simultaneously from many points of view."

Before the court, Que declared that the publication of the newspaper DAO NHAP THE without applying for an authorization as stipulated by law was "my own initiative." How courageous (!) he was when he dared accept personal responsibility for a lawbreaking act. But, in fact, it was because Que could not deny this act. Que wanted also to demonstrate that he published the newspaper DAO NHAP THE of his own free will, that its publication was not a policy of the "Arrow" Monastic Order headed by Doan and that it was not an organ of this monastic order. Likewise, Do Quang Chinh declared that up to the

publication of issue No 16, he censored the articles prior to their publication but did not find anything contrary to law (?). However, Chinh kept quiet when the court read out the above-mentioned passages.

Is it true that Que was the only one guilty of publishing the newspaper DAO NHAP THE illegally? From an objective point of view, nobody can accept this assumption. Had Nguyen Cong Doan not been obliged to admit before the court that he "knew of the newspaper publication" but "neither directly authorized it nor forbid it"(!)? How could a leader of the "Arrow" Monastic Order say so? The newspaper DAO NHAP THE was published at the Dac Lo Center--the headquarters of the "Arrow" Monastic Order led by Doan with Khuat Duy Linh as a direct leader in Dac Lo--continuously until issue No 54 throughout a long period of 5 years and 5 months (from 14 July 1977 to late in November 1980); the newspaper was printed and published at the Dac Lo Center by using the means belonging to the center; without the authorization of the principal responsible persons such as Doan--let me stress this point--, how could these things be done? Furthermore, since this was an illegal action--especially when anyone reading the contents of the newspaper DAO NHAP THE would see what its authors wanted--, without the agreement and a uniform policy of the direct leaders of the "Arrow" Monastic Order such as Doan, Le Thanh Que certainly neither dared nor could do such things. On the other hand, Que, Doan, Chinh, Quy and others admitted that after each edition, Que placed a copy on the table in a common room in Dac Lo for everyone to read. Publishing and distributing a newspaper without applying for an authorization and the newspaper carrying articles aimed at distorting and attacking the policy of the revolutionary administration and, worse still, stirring up people and calling for the overthrow of the administration--who can deny that these activities violated the socialist state law and seriously jeopardized the common security of the country?

The people at the Dac Lo Center did many other things. In communicating by letters with people abroad--not by maintaining a normal correspondence to which everyone is entitled but by distorting the truth and magnifying the shortages and difficulties in the country in order to disparage the socialist system--, Le Thanh Que "indirectly insulted the revolutionary administration," as he admitted it, when he wrote ironically: "Our people are now making a tremendous progress and have even excelled the West. They do not need to eat their fill of rice: One meal a day is already enough for them!" After much pondering, I cannot yet fully understand why they could betray their fellow countrymen in such a manner. As citizens of a country which was formerly deleted from the world map, our people had to endure so many bitter sacrifices, losses and hardships in order to win an everlasting glory and to brilliantly revive the two words "Viet Nam" in the national and human history. As persons endowed with a high standard of cultural knowledge, they [the Dac Lo people] should have contributed to maintaining and developing this glory instead of deriding, slandering and disparaging both a country which had given birth to them and a people who had brought them up and scored glorious achievements for them to share in and enjoy.

They even dealt illegally in gold. As admitted by Hoang Si Quy, general manager of the "Arrow" Monastic Order and manager of the Dac Lo Center, Quy and

Doan contacted persons intending to go abroad in order to buy gold from them; on arrival in a foreign country, these emigrants received a foreign currency refund from the local representative of the "Arrow" Monastic Order. They bought 60 taels of gold by this method. In particular, Doan arranged for his own relatives to come and sell 50 taels. This was a "deceitful exchange" trick which undermined the economic-financial situation in violation of the state policy on the management of gold and precious metals. In addition, Doan advocated the need to ask foreign countries for financial aid and indeed received a certain amount of U.S. dollars illegally. The public security organ seized 182 taels of gold and U.S. \$882 illegally concealed in the Dac Lo Center.

Meetings of Persons of the Same Mind

All of the above-mentioned things done by the principal responsible persons at the Dac Lo Center did not stop at that but went farther.

On 22 December 1980, Nguyen Huu Xuan a longstanding CIA agent (native of Quang Binh Province), came to see Le Thanh Que at the Dac Lo Center and was caught red-handed. Xuan had been arrested and detained in July 1975 by the revolutionary administration. He was released in 1977 after undergoing a period of reeducation but never repented. Together with Le Van Dung (another CIA agent), he mustered a group of budding counterrevolutionaries--such as the Blue Dragon Force [Luwcj Luwongj Thanh Long], the Alliance for National Salvation [Lien Minh Cuwus Nguy Daan Toocj], the National Sovereignty Restoration Force [Luwcj Luwongj Phucj Quoocs] and the Free Vietnam Force [Luwcj Luwongj Vietnam Tuwj Do]--to found the so-called Vietnam National Revolutionary Front [Mawtj Traanj Daan Toocj Cacha Mangj Vietnam]. Xuan admitted that on reading the newspaper DAO NHAP THE, he found that the Dac Lo Church used a number of its articles for preaching purposes so that he could understand the scheme of the Dac Lo Center people. Xuan said: "I read the newspaper DAO NHAP THE and found that it contained many articles and views which were very much to my liking." Xuan and Que met for the first time at a house near Lang Cha Ca--a place arranged by Truong Van Tuyen who stood guard during the meeting. People attending the court session certainly heard the three different declarations made by Xuan, Que and Tuyen about the duration of their meeting and the topic of their conversation.

They did not meet just to eat stuffed cakes and drink coffee as Que declared. This was refuted by Xuan himself when he said in his own declaration that "we met to talk about worldly matters"(!) For these "wordly matters," Xuan--in his capacity as member of the Vietnam National Revolutionary Front--came to see Que to exchange views on the situation of activities and to win Que's participation in his front. Surely, these talks about "wordly matters" took a turn for the better and led to a second contact at the Dac Lo Center.

At the Dac Lo Center, Que not only met with Nguyen Huu Xuan but also received and discussed with a number of leading elements from budding counterrevolutionary organizations which had been smashed by the administration and people but which still continued to carry out clandestine and sporadic activities. Le Thanh Que met with the following persons:

--Dang Duc Binh who called himself representative of the so-called National Salvation Front of Vietnam [Phong Trao Cuu Viet Nam];

--Le Trung Nghia of the National Alliance group [Thoms Lien Minh Quoc Gia];

--Thai Tuong Tam who represented the so-called Armed Group in the City; and

--A foreign country's secret agent whom Que, Xuan and their accomplices declared before the court that they knew by the name of "old man with a pock-marked face from the open-air market."

In addition, Le Thanh Que met Nguyen Thanh Vinh, leader of the counterrevolutionary National Alliance, at a coffee shop in Ho Xuan Huong Street.

Before the court, Que declared that he met with Xuan and that the latter told him about the intention of an armed organization in the city to cross over the frontier to Thailand. Que said: "I expressed my implicit approval and encouragement and I wished them good luck but I did so only out of savoir-vivre!"

In a statement, Que acknowledged: "I also realized that the groups belonging to Binh, Xuan, Nghia, Tam and Vinh were formed to gather opponents of the communist regime." In another passage, he said: "I received them with an anticommunist spirit. I also wished for some political opposition, for the presence of a party which would oppose the communist one and which would be strong enough to withstand the communist party."

Nevertheless, Que contended that he was not against the revolutionary administration (?). He said: "During my talks with them, if I contributed some views--even though they might be of an opposition nature--, I did so out of courtesy and diplomacy and my ideas were meant merely to carry on the conversation for form's sake but not at all to oppose the administration."(!) Here is how Que explained the reason he met counterrevolutionary elements: "It was out of curiosity. My aim was to inquire about the activities, organizational methods and prospects of these organizations."

It is certain that no one would consider these statements truthful.

A Hundred Rivers Will Flow into the Ocean

The rain had stopped. The crowd headed toward the court gate. Raising my head, I looked at the clear, blue sky resplendent with rosy beams of light. Suddenly, I thought about the long march performed by our people in 30 consecutive years full of sacrifices and hardships to recover independence and freedom. In this world, from the ancient to the present time, there has scarcely been any nation which has had to make so many sacrifices to win a victory which is not only the highest peak of 4,000 years of national construction and defense of the Vietnamese people but which also constitutes an invaluable contribution to mankind. This achievement belongs to the entire people including millions of religious compatriots. So many Christian compatriots had set brilliant examples of patriotism which will last forever

together with the country and had thus proven worthy of the fatherland's trust and love. Peace has been restored. To obliterate the dreadful sequels left behind by the Americans and their puppets and, at the same time, to overcome the difficulties caused by the manifold war waged by the Beijing expansionists and reactionaries in collusion with the international reactionaries and also to surmount the unavoidable shortcomings and weaknesses stemming from our own subjectivism, the Christian compatriots have, of one mind and in a joint effort with the entire people, rushed into a new but no less arduous struggle to build and defend the socialist fatherland. Acting in accordance with God's will and earthly reason, many clergymen at different echelons in the Catholic Church have advised the Catholic population to fulfill in earnest their obligations to the fatherland and nation.

However, the principal responsible persons at the Dac Lo Center--the headquarters of the "Arrow" Monastic Order led by Nguyen Cong Doan--did not do so. Taking advantage of religion and of the party and state policy on freedom of belief, they were engaged in counterrevolutionary activities and led a number of people onto the wrong path. Before justice, they had to answer for their activities which were carried out systematically according to a common policy and were interrelated closely. They owed an answer also to the patriotic Catholics. The severity of the sentences meted out to them corresponded to the gravity of their crimes which were constituted, for this one, by his concrete lawbreaking acts and, for that one, by his concrete lawbreaking acts plus their common responsibility for his role in the organization of the "Arrow" Monastic Order and the Dac Lo Center--responsibilities which they could not place on anyone else. Anyhow, they were only a minority, a very small minority among large segments of the Catholic population including Christian clergymen at all levels who not only disapproved of their illegal acts but also eagerly helped the revolutionary administration uncover and check these acts.

I sympathized with the feelings of the Catholic people attending the court session. I understood the joy glowing in the eyes of a young woman who laughingly said to her friends standing round about her: "That is beyond our imagination. We thought that several life imprisonment sentences and even stiffer ones would be handed down but finally Xuan was the only one who got it." (*) Inwardly, she was certainly moved by the socialist state's

* On 29 June 1983, in Ho Chi Minh City, the Municipal People's Court sat to try the case of Nguyen Huu Xuan, Le Thanh Que and their accomplices on charge of conspiring to overthrow the administration and carrying out counterrevolutionary propaganda activities. The court passed the following sentences:

-- Nguyen Huu Xuan: Life imprisonment; Le Thanh Que: 15 years in prison; Nguyen Cong Doan: 12 years in prison; Do Quang Chinh: 5 years in prison; Hoang Kim Khanh and Pham Huu Lai: each 4 years in prison; Truong Van Tuyen: 3 years in prison; Khuat Duy Linh: 4 years of imprisonment with suspended execution of sentence and 5 years of probation; Hoang Si Quy: 2 years of imprisonment with suspended execution of sentence and 4 years of probation; a warning was issued to Nguyen Van Hoa, Mai Thi Kim Loan, Dinh Van Trung and Vu Duc Ha.

leniency toward those who had made a mistake but I could not help feeling sorrow and bitterness in my heart when looking at her. Did she ever realize that the persons for whose sake she rejoiced at the leniency of the sentenced meted out were the very ones who had deceived and betrayed her and who had betrayed the confidence and esteem which she and so many other Catholics had placed in them?

Anyhow, she surely would have mixed feelings of joy and bitterness, which would do her more good, for our task of building socialism and defending the socialist fatherland is a grandiose undertaking with a unique, common goal: freedom and happiness for the entire people. Since the path leading to socialism is replete with favorable conditions but also bristling with difficulties, the problem raised in the conscience of each Vietnamese citizen --either atheistic or religious--is to unite with and love one another and to do his best to contribute to the great cause.

A hundred rivers will flow into the ocean. A hundred minds will focus on a single target. That is precisely what makes up our nation's strength--one which has been and is being victorious.

9332

CSO: 4209/526

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

CHU HUY MAN SPEAKS AT ALL-ARMY TRADE UNION CONGRESS

BK111551 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 20 Aug 83 pp 1, 4

[Speech by Senior General Chu Huy Man, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau, at 17-19 August second congress of all-army trade union delegates]

[Text] Dear comrades:

In compliance with a directive of the CPV Central Committee and as directed by the Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions [VCTU] Central Committee, the congress of lower- and higher-level trade unions in the armed forces has been held and concluded with fine success. After a few days of intensive work, and with a sense of collective mastery and determination to make scrupulous criticism and self-criticism displayed by those comrades representing national defense workers who are directly engaged in production and in various works at the armed forces' infrastructure; by various managerial, scientific, and technical cadres; by those comrades in charge of political organs; and by those comrades who are staff members of the Ministry of National Defense, the second congress of all-army trade union delegates has attained good results.

Through this congress, one can realize more clearly that under the party leadership and the management of various public organs and cadres at various levels, and thanks to the active role of trade unions concerned, national defense workers, production management cadres, and scientific and technical cadres in the armed forces have upheld their sense of responsibility toward their revolutionary and military tasks by maintaining and developing the fine character of people's armed forces, exerting great efforts to overcome difficult conditions in fulfilling their production tasks and their duties of repairing weapons, technical equipment, and national defense products. These credits have contributed greatly to building a standardized and modern revolutionary army, strengthening national defense, meeting the requirement for remaining combat ready and fighting victoriously, building the economy, and fulfilling international obligations. Facts show that the force of national defense cadres, workers, and personnel in the people's armed forces is worthy of being one of the progressive elements of the Vietnamese working class.

On behalf of the CPV Central Committee's military commission and the Ministry of National Defense, I warmly hail and commend the great efforts, achievements, and contributions made by all of you, as well as the progress of the workers' movement and the efforts of various trade union organizations in the armed forces.

Dear comrades, after many years of united struggle under the leadership of the party--the vanguard combat brigade of the Vietnamese working class--in the spring of 1975 our people achieved total victory in their fight against U.S. imperialist aggression, thus completing the national democratic revolution throughout the country and entering a stage in which all of the country is carrying out the socialist revolution and building socialism. This is an inevitable course of the Vietnamese revolution's development. All members of the Vietnamese working class have proceeded from being hired hands to becoming their own masters, from being leaders of the national liberation revolution to becoming leaders of the socialist revolution and the building of socialism. As a component of the international working class--the class which plays a central role in the present period of time; that is, the period of transition from capitalism to socialism on an international scale--the Vietnamese working class is truly worthy of having given birth to a genuine Marxist-Leninist party, the CPV. It is also worthy of being a bulwark of the heroic Vietnamese nation which stands in the ranks of nations pioneering the struggle for the lofty causes of our times.

In the socialist revolution and socialist construction, the Vietnamese working class serves as both a leadership force and as a bulwark in the cause of building the material and technical bases of socialism. This cause is inseparable from the central task of the transition period; namely, the socialist industrialization task. It is the Vietnamese working class' heavy but very glorious mission to hold high the banner of national independence and socialism, overcome all difficulties and ordeals in steadily reaching the finish line--that is, successfully building socialism and bringing about a prosperous, happy, and beautiful life for the entire people--eliminate forever the system of exploitation of man by man, and build a new society, a new economy, a new culture, and new socialist men.

Taking into account the revolutionary guidelines and tasks, as well as the basic political tasks of our people's armed forces in the new stage, you, national defense cadres, workers, and personnel, must be fully aware of your position and responsibility toward the unit-building and combat duties of the people's revolutionary army, ensuring that the army will become standardized and modernized, capable of remaining combat ready and fighting victoriously, while engaging in productive labor to build the economy and fulfilling its glorious international obligations. With the efforts of our people and army, and with the great assistance given by the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, we will proceed toward building a modern national defense industry, using it as a foundation for increasing our fighting strength to defend the socialist fatherland and the cause of socialist construction. In the immediate future, we must accelerate the production of replacement parts and the repair of existing weapons and technical

equipment while conducting research to invent and manufacture those essential products which we can make by ourselves in order to ensure the operation of the armed forces. National defense cadres, workers, and personnel are the ones directly controlling machinery and technical equipment and directing the process of production in various enterprises and production units, with many of them belonging to the country's key industrial sectors. They therefore constitute a very important force which can serve as a guarantee for our army to master modern military technology and develop its combined strength in a steady and lasting manner in order to defend the socialist fatherland and build socialism while serving as an important force in the industrialization of the national economy.

In order to live up to their role and position as members of the vanguard class in the socialist revolution, national defense cadres, workers, and personnel must be fully aware of revolutionary guidelines and tasks, of other guidelines and tasks regarding unit-building and combat activities of the people's armed forces, and of the pressing and essential requirements of the national defense industry so as to constantly strive to perform their duties in accordance with these guidelines and tasks.

In national defense-oriented production, we must regard the increase of product quality, labor output, and production results as objectives to be achieved by each individual, each production team, each unit, and each enterprise. Increasing product quality, labor output, and production results serve as firm assurance for the accuracy and efficiency of weapons and technical equipment used in training grounds, battlefields, productive labor, and in daily military activities regardless of whether these weapons and equipment are utilized immediately or are utilized only after being kept in storage for a long period of time.

The accuracy and efficiency of weapons and technical equipment as well as the quality of national defense-oriented products are factors determining the victory of a battle and helping reduce casualties. They reflect the responsibility, abilities to achieve mastery, and professional skills of national defense cadres, workers, and personnel. Therefore, striving to increase the product quality, labor output, and production results in national defense-oriented production constitutes not only a requirement but also a course toward constantly cultivating workers in all respects and improving their professional skills in keeping with the growth of modern military science and technology. This is an indispensable condition for accelerating the modernization process of our people's army.

Typical of the fine character and the superiority of the socialist system are the elimination of the system of exploitation of man by man and the establishment of the laboring people's right to socialist collective ownership of the means of production. This type of ownership exists under two forms; namely, all-people ownership and collective ownership. Therefore, the working class and the laboring people must regard the need to strive to carry out productive labor in order to produce more wealth for society in the spirit of "each for everyone and everyone for each" as a glorious duty, as the best

quality and ethical code of new socialist men, and as a good start for communism. As Lenin put it: "Communism can originate in places where ordinary workers are selflessly concerned about how to fulfill their heavy task of increasing their labor output and how to protect every ounce of wheat and anthracite as well as every piece of iron and other products, even if these things are not destined for these workers or for their 'close relatives' but for their 'distant relatives,' that is, for the entire society." (Footnote: Lenin's Works on Party Building; Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1977, p 182)

Under the socialist system, all natural resources, all essential means of production, and all social wealth produced are regarded as collective assets of society and are used for the common benefit of the entire society as well as of every collective and individual worker. Therefore, while carrying out production, we must treasure and protect socialist property, not leaving it for the enemy to sabotage or allowing anyone to seize it for use as private property in contrary to the principle of socialist management and distribution and other stipulations of the state.

In production, we must practice thrift. Only by practicing thrift can we constantly increase production and improve the living standard of the laboring people. Production and thrift must always accompany each other. These are the two harmonious areas in the process of production and extended reproduction. It is not that poverty compels us to practice thrift, but that the more the economy develops and the more production is expanded, the greater the need to practice thrift will be. This is because under these conditions, the adverse affect of wastage--the enemy of production--will be more devastating.

Treasuring and protecting public property, safeguarding socialist property, securing production, and practicing thrift relate to the ethical code and responsibility of those who are socialist collective masters and to the nature and the vanguard militancy of the working class as already reflected in the current revolutionary stage of advancing toward socialism. In losing vigilance, loosening organizational and managerial work, or because of one reason or another letting the enemy sabotage our production or by allowing negative phenomena to develop, we would bring losses upon the revolution, weaken the fundamental bases of the socialist system, and, more precisely, destroy the nature, superiority, and strength of socialism.

Along with carrying out production, we must strive to maintain and gradually improve the living standards of national defense cadres, workers, and personnel and their families with a profound sense of class friendship and determination to maintain and foster the essential and progressive workforce of the socialist society. These are the permanent tasks of various party committee echelons; unit commanders; leadership and managerial cadres at all levels; basic party, trade union, and youth union organizations; and all national defense cadres, workers, and personnel.

We must firmly grasp the basic guidelines for stepping up production so as to improve the livelihood of workers while resolutely ensuring the delivery of all state-supplied goods to workers without any cutbacks. We must study how to appropriately apply all the supply standards and systems already stipulated by the state for cadres and workers of various production and technical sectors in the armed forces. When producing economic goods under the state plan, enterprises are entitled to privileges already stipulated by the state. It is necessary to ensure that these privileges are distributed on an equal and rational basis and in line with socialist principles and ethics. As in other fields of activity, in distribution, all injustices, no matter how small, are against the nature of the socialist system. If these injustices are allowed to continue or develop, they will jeopardize the solidarity and unity bloc and the fighting strength of our people and our armed forces. Therefore, injustices must not be allowed to occur or continue in the armed forces.

By the way, I would like to remind you that the people's army must serve no interests other than those of the fatherland, the working class, and the laboring people, and must always remain combat ready to make sacrifices for the independence and freedom of the fatherland, for socialism, and for the people's happiness. National defense-oriented production must be directed at serving these interests. In national defense-oriented production as well as in economic construction, all units and national defense enterprises must implement plans and work norms stipulated by the state and the armed forces without setting up any other plans, work norms, or stipulations in an attempt to serve their own interests, for this would constitute an infringement upon the collective interests, create irrational differences among the beneficiaries, worsen the confusion in circulation and distribution, and create disappointments in society.

Along with accelerating production and fulfilling various party and state systems and policies, each individual and each family of cadres, workers, and personnel of the national defense sector, and each unit and enterprise must enhance the spirit of self-reliance, strive to increase production (in cultivation and animal husbandry), concretely improve their livelihood, and cleverly organize their daily life to overcome some of their difficulties. They must not solely rely on or demand from the state. They must heighten the spirit of solidarity and sense of class friendship. They must combine the working people's quality of self-respect with the Vietnamese traditional quality as stated in the old sayings, "Precious mirror must be covered by high-quality silk," [solidarity among the people must be carefully protected] and, "despite poverty, one must be clean." On the basis of this traditional quality, they must assist one another and share weal and woe in their daily life.

Through their concrete struggle to increase the quality of products, to increase labor output and production results, to practice thrift, to respect and protect socialist property and production, and to firmly maintain and gradually improve the people's livelihood, individual national defense cadres, workers, and members must strive to train themselves to become new socialist

citizens and outstanding combatants of the standardized and modern revolutionary army with all the fine quality and character of the working class in close association with the high quality and character of revolutionary soldiers. These persons must maintain their love for a socialist country, uphold the spirit of the brilliant proletarian internationalism, and enhance a high spirit of achieving socialist collective mastery. They must have a warm class-oriented sentiment; a strong fighting impetus; a spirit to make selfless sacrifices in production, combat, and other work; cultural, scientific, and technical knowledge which constantly improves to meet the requirements for production development; good professional skills; and ability to achieve collective mastery in all aspects. They must observe discipline and possess working behavior in conformity with the modern industrial production system and specific military activities.

Dear comrades, trade unions, which are the largest mass organization of the working class, are responsible for uniting, assembling, organizing, educating, and motivating workers to carry out revolution under the party's leadership. Under the socialist regime, trade unions are also a basic organization for exercising the working class' right to collective mastery and are part of the system of proletarian dictatorship. As part of the VCTU, trade unions in the armed forces have basically the same functions, duties, and powers as do trade union organizations outside the armed forces. It is necessary to understand that trade unions are not an administrative and professional organization. Therefore, grassroots-level trade unions in the armed forces must hold firm to the armed forces' political tasks; units' and enterprises' production tasks; and their own role, functions, duties, and powers--and then apply them to the realities of life and of the activities of national defense cadres, workers, and employees. Only in this way will they fulfill their tasks successfully.

First of all, trade unions must pay attention to heightening the class awareness and socialist enlightenment of national defense cadres, workers, and employees; build new socialist workers and outstanding soldier workers for the armed forces; and satisfactorily fulfill their function as communist schools of the working class. They must, through the realities of production and the socialist emulation movement, educate the working class and national defense cadres, workers, and employees so that they will improve their qualities, virtues, and fine sentiments.

Grassroots-level trade union organizations in the armed forces must concentrate their activities on fulfilling production tasks, achieving economic and technical objectives, and organizing and accelerating the emulation movement among national defense cadres, workers, and employees to engage in productive labor and practice thrift. They must, by all means, organize the education of workers to improve their political, cultural, and scientific and technical knowledge. This is instrumental in helping to train a body of skilled workers and good technical and managerial cadres and, at the same time, to create an important source of replenishments for the force of party members and the contingent of commanding and political cadres for the armed forces.

Trade unions must motivate national defense cadres, workers, and employees to promote the spirit of collective mastery; actively participate in improving the management of production and enterprises; closely cooperate with directors of enterprises and commanders of production units in resolving specific problems concerning conditions of production, labor safety, the fostering of labor strength, and the stabilization and improvement of the life of national defense cadres, workers, and employees; and exercise the men and women workers' right to collective mastery over production tasks, production management, distribution, and the improvement of life.

To satisfactorily carry out their role, functions, and duties, trade unions in the armed forces must rely heavily on the leadership and supervision of party committee echelons, unit commanders, directors of enterprises, and all-level political organs; actively seek professional guidance from the VCTU and assistance and coordination from all-level trade union organizations in localities; satisfactorily settle the relations between grassroots-level trade unions and enterprise managers; and achieve close coordination with the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union. Meanwhile, they must make their own organization strong and perfect, improve their work methods, improve and develop the body of trade union cadres with good qualities and abilities, and ensure that the force of cadres to succeed the current ones will be abundant, well trained, and prepared. Trade union activities must be directed toward production and the rich and lively realities of life. Trade unions' operational procedures must correctly reflect their mass character, their educational character, and their combativity. Passive, rigid, and formalist operational procedures must be avoided because they are ineffective and yield poor results.

To enable trade unions to fulfill their duties, party committee echelons, unit commanders, enterprise managers, heads of political organs, and production supervisory and managerial organs from the Ministry of National Defense down to units and enterprises must correctly understand the role and duties of trade unions in the armed forces; pay constant attention to their activities as well as to the workers' production activities; promptly direct and guide workers in resolving difficulties in production and in their everyday life; and develop, consolidate, and perfect trade union organizations and create favorable conditions for them to operate satisfactorily.

Following this congress, each echelon, depending on its responsibilities and powers, must scrupulously comply with the Ministry of Defense's instruction on resolving certain problems in order to ensure production, implementation of state guidelines and policies, and the interests of national defense cadres, workers, and employees.

Regarding tasks to be done to accelerate the workers movement and trade union activities in the armed forces, as pointed out in the Political General Department's report which the congress participants discussed and agreed upon, party committee echelons, unit commanders, political organs, and production supervisory and managerial organs at all levels must study and understand them thoroughly and, together with trade unions, organize their

satisfactory implementation. This must not be considered the sole responsibility of trade unions.

Dear comrades, our second congress of all-army trade union delegates has achieved fine successes, but these successes will be affirmed only by vigorous changes in the main aspects of the workers movement and trade union activities in the armed forces in the days to come. As national defense cadres, workers, and employees are both workers and combatants of the people's armed forces, they must display the working class' spirit of thorough revolution and militant vanguard character and our armed forces' determined-to-fight-and-win tradition in all activities in order to successfully fulfill their glorious duties, create a positive change in production and in the workers movement and trade union activities in all units and national defense enterprises, and contribute to making party and trade union resolutions a reality.

The party Central Committee's Military Commission and the Ministry of Defense are confident in the comrade delegates. I wish the delegates success.

Through the comrade delegates, I convey the solicitous regards and cordial sentiments of the party Central Committee's Military Commission and the Ministry of Defense to all national defense cadres, workers, and employees of both sexes, who are participating in production, carrying out other tasks, supporting combat and combat readiness activities, helping develop the economy, and performing international obligations. I wish all of them good health and full enthusiasm in the emulation production movement in order to make worthy contributions to the party's glorious revolutionary undertaking and the fulfillment of the forces' political tasks in the new stage.

CSO: 4209/21

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

PCF'S MARCHAIS RECEIVES VO CHI CONG DELEGATION

OW071959 Hanoi VNA in English 1714 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 7 Oct--Georges Marchais, secretary-general of the French Communist Party [PCF] Central Committee, yesterday cordially received in Paris the visiting delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam headed by Vo Chi Cong, political bureau member and secretary of the CPV Central Committee.

Present on the French side was Maxime Gremetz, political bureau member and secretary of the party CC. The Vietnamese delegation also included Vu Quang, member of the party CC and director of its international department, and Mai Van Bo, ambassador to France.

Vo Chi Cong conveyed the cordial greetings and high regards of Le Duan, general-secretary of the CPV Central Committee, and other Vietnamese leaders to Georges Marchais and the PCF leadership. He informed his host about the situation in Vietnam, Indochina and southeast Asia.

The French communist leader warmly welcomed the delegation's visit. He reiterated the active and consistent support of the French communists and working people for Vietnam's socialist construction and national defence. He particularly expressed his party's strong support for the government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea headed by President Heng Samrin, and vehemently condemned all moves and acts aimed at restoring the genocidal Pol Pot junta in Kampuchea.

G. Marchais also warmly acclaimed the recent persistent and constructive initiatives of the governments and peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea for promoting the trend of dialogue with their neighbours so as to make Indochina, and southeast Asia as a whole, a region of peace, stability and cooperation, thereby contributing to the common struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

Georges Marchais expressed his satisfaction at the new, positive developments of the traditional solidarity, friendship and cooperation between the communist parties and peoples of the two countries and his wish for the constant consolidation and strengthening of these relations.

The reception took place in an atmosphere of fraternal solidarity and friendship.

CSO: 4200/81

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

CPV GREETES PDRY SOCIALIST PARTY FOUNDING

OW130524 Hanoi VNA in English 1544 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 12 Oct--The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam Tuesday extended its greetings to the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the founding of the party.

The message of greetings says:

"Over the past 5 years, under the leadership of the YSP Central Committee headed by esteemed Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the Yemeni people, overcoming many trials, thwarting all plots of sabotage of the imperialists and other reactionary forces, have recorded great achievements in their socialist construction and in firmly defending the people's Democratic Republic of Yemen, thus upgrading the international position and prestige of the country.

"The Communist Party and people of Vietnam highly value these great achievements and consider them as an important contribution to the common struggle of the Arab people and the world's people for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

"Your party's anniversary, celebrated in the 20th year of the glorious 14 October revolution of the Yemeni people, marks historic turning points in the staunch struggle of the Yemeni working class and labour people for an independent, peaceful, democratic, unified and socialist Yemen."

"We take this opportunity to thank the Socialist Party and the fraternal people of Yemen for their valuable support to our national construction and defence," the message adds.

It concludes: "May the militant solidarity and friendly cooperation between our two parties and peoples be further consolidated and developed."

CSO: 4200/81

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SRV LEADERS THANK GDR FOR ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE

AU061246 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 30 Sep 83 pp 1-2

[Text] Berlin (ADN)--Le Duan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam; Truong Chinh, chairman of the SRV Council of State; Pham Van Dong, chairman of the council of ministers; and Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the SRV National Assembly, have expressed thanks to the GDR representatives for the congratulations on the 38th anniversary of the state foundation. The telegram to Erich Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary and GDR State Council chairman; Willi Stoph, chairman of the council of ministers; and Horst Sindermann, president of the People's Chamber, reads as follows:

We convey our sincere thanks to you and through you to the SED Central Committee, the State Council, the council of ministers, and the GDR People's Chamber for your cordial congratulations on the 38th anniversary of the SRV.

We note with satisfaction that the cordial friendship and the fraternal cooperation between our two parties and states are steadily strengthening and deepening on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

We wish the fraternal people of the GDR under the leadership of the SED many new great successes in shaping the developed socialist society as a contribution to strengthening the socialist community and the forces struggling for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

May the friendship and cooperation between our two parties, states and peoples strengthen with every day and flourish.

CSO: 4620/1

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

PHAM VAN DONG SENDS CONDOLENCES TO NICARAGUA

BK060710 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 4 Oct 83

[4 October message from Pham Van Dong, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, to Daniel Ortega Saavedra, revolutionary commander and coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua]

[Text] We are deeply shocked at the news of the accident befalling the passenger boat "Santa Elena," causing a number of deaths and injuries. I convey to you and, through you, to the bereaved families and the fraternal Nicaraguan people the solicitous regards and deep condolences of the Vietnamese Government and people.

CSO: 4209/20

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

CUBAN ASSEMBLY DELEGATION TO VISIT--Hanoi, VNA, 13 Oct--A delegation of the National Assembly of the People's Power [as received] of Cuba visit Vietnam in the near future says a communique released here today by the Vietnamese National Assembly and Council of State. The delegation will be led by Flavio Oravio Pardo, member of the commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the national assembly of the people's power, and member of the Council of State. [Text] [OW131706 Hanoi VNA in English 1538 GMT 13 Oct 83]

LIBYAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION ARRIVES--Hanoi, VNA, 13 Oct--A government economic delegation of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya arrived here today on a friendship visit to Vietnam. The delegation was led by Ibrahim Gawidar, secretary of the General People's Committee for Jamahiriya and Sports [name, title as received]. It was welcomed by Dao Thien Thi, minister of labour; Nguyen Duy Cuong, deputy minister of public health; Ali Ahmed al-Bakush, secretary of the People's Bureau of Libya-Jamahiriya to Vietnam and other officials. [Text] [OW131720 Hanoi VNA in English 1531 GMT 13 Oct 83]

PARTY DELEGATION RETURNS FROM FRANCE--Hanoi, VNA, 11 Oct--The high-level delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam led by Vo Chi Cong, political bureau member and secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, returned here today after its friendship visit to France at the invitation of the French Communist Party Central Committee. It was welcomed back by Nguyen Duc Tam, political bureau member secretary of the CPVCC; Hoang Tung, secretary of the CPVCC; Nguyen Khan, alternate member of the CPVCC, and director of its office; Tran Danh Tuyen, deputy head of the international department of the CPVCC and others. [Text] [OW112024 Hanoi VNA in English 1635 GMT 11 Oct 83]

CONG DELEGATION LEAVES PARIS--Hanoi, VNA, 9 Oct--The high-level delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam led by Vo Chi Cong, political bureau member of the CPV Central Committee left Paris yesterday concluding its visit to France at the invitation of the French Communist Party [PCF] Central Committee. It was seen off at the airport by representatives of the PCF Central Committee, other personalities and large numbers of Vietnamese residents in Paris. Earlier, the delegation had visited the house at number 9 in Compoint Alley where the last President Ho Chi Minh lived from 1921-23. It called at the office of the communications and transport service in the Paris region and had a cordial meeting with officials of the France-Vietnam Friendship Association. The

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Vietnamese guests toured Choisy-le-Roy city which has twinning relationship with Dong da Precinct in Hanoi and visited the Central Party School of the PCF. The delegation also visited many other places in France including Dunkerque Port City, PCF-governed towns, and the gravelines nuclear power plant. [Text] [OW091833 Hanoi VNA in English 1656 GMT 9 Oct 83]

YOUTH DELEGATION LEAVES HANOI--Hanoi, VNA, 8 Oct--The delegation of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union led by its First Secretary Thongsavat Khaikhamphithoun, member of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, left here today. The delegation was seen off by Vu Mao, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union. While here, the Lao guests called at some economic and cultural establishments and army units in Hanoi and other localities, including the Hoa Binh hydro-electric power project. [Text] [OW082011 Hanoi VNA in English 1547 GMT 8 Oct 83]

LAO YOUTH DELEGATION RECEIVED--Hanoi, VNA, 7 Oct--Le Quang Dao, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, today received the visiting delegation of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union led by its First Secretary Thongsavat Khaikhamphithoun, member of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party. Vu Mao, member of the CPVCC, first secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, was present at the reception. Le Quang Dao hailed the close cooperation between the youth union of the two countries and said they have great responsibilities in motivating and organizing the young generations to successfully implement the tasks of national construction and defence entrusted by the two parties. The same day, the Lao and Vietnamese Youth Union delegations signed a joint communique on the friendly visit by the Lao youth delegation, and a programme on cooperation between the two youth unions in 1984-85. Vu Mao and Thongsavat Khaikhamphithoun held a press conference on this occasion. They praised the special friendship and close cooperation between the two nations and youth unions and affirmed the two young generations' determination and responsibility in maintaining, defending and fostering the traditional friendship between the two peoples. [Text] [OW072100 Hanoi VNA in English 1608 GMT 7 Oct 83]

CYPRIOT LEADER GREETED--Hanoi, VNA, 7 Oct--Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, today sent his warmest greetings to Ezekias Papaioannou, general secretary of the progressive party of the working people (AKEL) of Cyprus, on the occasion of his 75th birthday. Le Duan wished the Cypriot people's liberation struggle against imperialism greater successes and the solidarity and friendship between the parties and peoples of Vietnam and Cyprus further consolidation and development. [Text] [OW071859 Hanoi VNA in English 1606 GMT 7 Oct 83]

CPV, PCF DELEGATIONS HOLD TALKS--Hanoi, VNA, 7 Oct--The high-level delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam led by Vo Chi Cong, political bureau member and secretary of the Central Committee of the CPV, had two rounds of talks with a delegation of the French Communist Party [PCF] headed by M. Gremetz, political bureau member and secretary of the PCFCC on 30 September and 3 October. Present on the Vietnamese side were Vu Quang, member of the Central Committee of the CPV and head of its international department, and Mai Van Vo, Vietnamese ambassador

to France. On the French side were Henri Martin, member of the Central Committee, deputy director of the Maurice Thorez Party School, and several cadres of the PCFCC, and Daniel Roussel, correspondent of l'Humanite in Hanoi. The two delegations informed each other of the present struggle of the parties and peoples of the two countries, exchanged views on international and regional issues of mutual concern and discussed measures aimed at further strengthening the traditional ties of solidarity, friendship and cooperation between the parties and peoples of the two countries in the coming period. The talks took place in an atmosphere of solidarity and fraternal friendship. [Text]
[OW071952 Hanoi VNA in English 1711 GMT 7 Oct 83]

ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO PERUVIAN CP--Hanoi, VNA, 6 Oct--The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam today sent a message of greetings to the Central Committee of the Peruvian Communist Party on the latter's 55th anniversary. The message says: "Over the past 55 years, your party has constantly struggled for a new and progressive society in Peru, thus actively contributing to the struggle of the working class and the international communist movement for the noble targets of our time, namely peace, national independence, democracy and socialism." The message wishes the Peruvian communists new successes in the implementation of their democratic and socialist revolutionary program adopted by the 7th National Party Congress, and thanks the Peruvian communists, working class and people for their active support for the Vietnamese peoples' national construction and defence. It wishes for further consolidation and development of the militant solidarity between the two parties and peoples. [Text] [OW062123 Hanoi VNA in English 1623 GMT 6 Oct 83]

JAPANESE AMBASSADOR LEAVES--Hanoi, VNA, 5 Oct--Japanese Ambassador to Vietnam Atsuhiko Yatabe left here today at the end of his term of office in Vietnam. [Text] [OW051704 Hanoi VNA in English 1603 GMT 5 Oct 83]

EMBASSY MARKS ARMY DAY--Hanoi, VNA, 5 Oct--The military attache of the Indonesian Embassy in Vietnam, Colonel Bantu Hardjijo, gave a reception here this evening in honour of his country's 38th army day. With him was Indonesia's Charge d'Affaires A. I. Pratjono. With him was Indonesia's Charge d'Affaires A. I. Pratjono. Their guests included Major-General Lu Giang representing the Ministry of National Defence, and representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs the Vietnam People's Army, and public offices in Hanoi. Members of the diplomatic corps here were present at the reception. [Text] [OW051748 Hanoi VNA in English 1606 GMT 5 Oct 83]

YOUTH DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR VISIT--Hanoi, VNA, 5 October--A delegation of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, led by its First Secretary Thongsavat Khaikhamphithoun, member of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, has arrived here on a friendship visit. On Tuesday the guests called at the office of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union where they were warmly received by its First Secretary Vu Mao, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam. The two sides compared notes on youth work and discussed measures to promote cooperation between the two youth unions. A welcome meeting was held here last evening by Hanoi youth and children in honour of the delegation. [Text] [OW051638 Hanoi VNA in English 1530 GMT 5 Oct 83]

NEW SRV AMBASSADOR RECEIVED--Ethiopia will do its best to promote its friendship and cooperation with Vietnam, declared Ethiopian Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam. In this recent statement to the new Vietnamese ambassador, (Tran Van Dao), the Ethiopian chairman condemned imperialism and colonialism for their brutal and wicked measures to oppose the independence and sovereignty of the SRV. [Text] [BK051217 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 5 Oct 83]

CONSTRUCTION DELEGATION ENDS VISIT--Hanoi, VNA, 10 October--A delegation of the Lao Ministry of Construction led by its Vice Minister Sengkhom Phinit visited Vietnam from 26 September to 10 October. While here, the delegation was warmly received by Pham Ngoc Tuong, alternate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, and minister of construction. The Lao guests exchanged views with Vietnamese officials concerned on organizational and managerial work in the production of building materials. They toured the Hoa Binh hydro-electric power project, the Pha Lai thermal power plant, the Bim son and Hoang Thach cement factories and other enterprises producing building materials in various localities. [Text] [OW110901 Hanoi VNA in English 0800 GMT 10 Oct 83]

CSO: 4200/81

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

NHAN DAN REPORTS ON NGHIA BINH PARTY CONFERENCE

BK061230 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Sep 83 pp 1, 4

[Text] An enlarged conference was held recently by the Nghia Binh provincial party committee to study and seek an understanding of the fourth party Central Committee plenum resolution.

The conference reached a high degree of identity of views on the party Central Committee's resolution, and affirmed the great achievements recorded in the economic, cultural, social, and national security and defense fields, while pointing out deviations and shortcomings in ideological and organizational work which are now the great obstacles to the province's effort to carry out all immediate tasks.

The provincial party committee also reviewed the socioeconomic situation in the province and the leading role of the local party organization executive committee. Over the past 3 years, thanks to their efforts, the party organization and people of Nghia Binh Province have overcome numerous difficulties and scored many successes. Production has continued to develop, especially on the agricultural front. In 1982, Nghia Binh achieved a new record in both rice yield and grain output. Four districts and 22 cooperatives in the province attained a rice yield of 7-14 tons per hectare. This year, the winter-spring crop and summer-fall crop in the province have been seriously affected by drought. However, by applying the product contract system and by consolidating new production relations and accelerating the movement--jointly launched by the state and the people--to carry out irrigation work, many cooperatives and some districts still have been able to attain a higher yield compared with last year.

Although the grain output converted to paddy equivalent in these two crop seasons has shown a decrease, the life of the people in the province remains stable. For several consecutive years, Nghia Binh has successfully fulfilled its grain obligation to the state. Remarkable changes have been made in the fields of distribution, circulation, finance, banking, imports and exports. Most remarkable is the success of the province in ensuring that essential commodities are distributed in accordance with the set criteria and quantities, and that wages are paid to workers and civil servants on schedule. No major changes have been reported in market prices while great progress has been made in all social and cultural activities. The livelihood

of the people has been stabilized and, in certain aspects and localities, has become better compared with the past. Meanwhile, national defense and security have been firmly maintained and work related to the development of the party and administration and various mass organizations has been stepped up.

The conference seriously reviewed ideological and organizational deviations and shortcomings in studying and implementing the lines and policies of the party and the state, especially in grasping various economic rules and regulations during the first stage of the period of transition from small production to large-scale socialist production. The conference noted that efforts have not yet been made by the province to seek a profound understanding of the need to carry out transformation in combination with building. The most obvious shortcomings are the vague concept of the struggle between the two paths; the laxity in the transformation of industry and trade and control of the market and prices for a long time, and the failure to intemperately accelerate agricultural transformation in the mountainous region, reorganize fishery and salt production, and improve and strengthen state-operated services and marketing and credit cooperatives.

The provincial party committee profoundly analyzed the shortcomings concerning the failure to fully identify the sharp nature of the struggle between our people and the enemy, and the loss of vigilance in the face of the enemy's multifaceted scheme and act of sabotage.

In party building work, discipline remains lax; the consciousness of cadres and party members remains weak; serious offenses committed by cadres and party members still have not promptly and legitimately dealt with; work related to cadre organization has not yet met the requirements; and the implementation of the principle of democratic centralism in party activities and economic and social management remains lax in many localities and cases.

To overcome these weaknesses, the conference unanimously outlined a program of action for the period between now and the end of 1983, striving to concentrate efforts on effectively carrying out all immediate tasks.

The first and foremost task is to strive to step up grain production by resolutely overcoming all difficulties in order to satisfactorily carry out the 10th-month crop cultivation. This is aimed at using part of the output of this crop to make up for the shortfalls suffered in the winter-spring crop and summer-fall crop as a result of serious drought, while ensuring sufficient grain to satisfy the needs of the people and fulfill the grain obligation to the state.

Meanwhile, efforts must be made by all party committee and administrative echelons in the province to intensively lead and direct the struggle to restore socialist order on the distribution and circulation front. The central task for the period between now and the end of 1983 is to continue the struggle to successfully liquidate or control the free market, intensify the management of the market and prices, continuously carry out socialist

transformation of bourgeois and privately operated trade and industry; develop state-operated trade, marketing cooperatives, and credit cooperatives: expand the network responsible for the collection, purchase, and control of goods; reorganize the market; control large quantities of goods, and stabilize prices.

CSO: 4209/21

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

NHAN DAN REPORTS BINH TRI THIEN PARTY CONFERENCE

BK071139 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 9 Sep 83 pp 1, 4

[Text] The Binh Tri Thien party organization's executive committee recently held a conference to study and understand the fourth CPV Central Committee plenum resolution and to discuss measures to triumphantly fulfill the province's socioeconomic tasks in the days ahead.

The conference noted that over the past years, the province's party organization and people have made great efforts in their tasks and have scored many significant economic achievements, especially in grain production. In 1982, the gross grain product reached 460,000 metric tons the highest yield the province has achieved so far. In this 5th-month spring crop, the province produced 230,000 metric tons of grain, or 4,000 metric tons more than the previous crop. The province has collected and purchased 54,000 metric tons of grain converted to paddy equivalent, overfulfilling its grain obligation plan norms by 5 percent.

However, there are shortcomings in the province's ideological and organizational tasks. This is due to the fact that the province has not profoundly understood our struggle with the enemy or the struggle between the two paths. The socioeconomic management task has been neglected. Implementation of party directives and resolutions and state law has not been strictly implemented. One-crop cultivation is prevalent, and intensive cultivation has not been accelerated. Distribution and circulation--a pressing problem--is fraught with weaknesses. The sources of goods and money have not been effectively controlled, while market management is neglected. Socialist transformation has not been closely combined with construction. State-run economy is not firmly consolidated, while transformation of privately run industry and business has been carried out slowly.

The principle of democratic centralism has not been seriously applied in party activities and economic management. Criticism and self-criticism have been conducted inconsistently. The inspection task has been neglected and so forth. Various echelons and sectors' organizations and apparatuses have improved slowly. Rightist thinking is prevalent, while discipline is not strictly and seriously observed.

In order to strengthen the ideological and organizational work, enhance the capability of the authorities, and develop the worker's right to collective mastery to triumphantly fulfill the immediate socioeconomic tasks, the conference formulated various measures to implement the ideological and organizational tasks in the spirit of the fourth CPV Central Committee plenum resolution. It is imperative to strengthen ideological and political education. The province has launched a political activity to disseminate the fourth CPV Central Committee plenum resolution and that of its party organization; to conduct criticism and self-criticism in various echelons, sectors, and among party cadres and members on their stands, views, and thinking, and on revolutionary ethics and their sense of responsibility, especially in implementing various party resolutions and observing state law. At the same time, the province must strengthen its supervisory and managerial apparatus. Various echelons must consolidate their grassroot units and improve the quality of the contingent of party cadres and members. The province must urgently improve the division of labor and the decentralization of power on economic management to various districts, while striving to strengthen their working apparatus. It must formulate the general program and programs for sectors, combine economic tasks with the national defense task at the district level, organize economic joint ventures, and establish district agro-industrial structure. The province must also strengthen inspection work, uphold legislation and state law, and strive to eliminate the practice of not strictly observing discipline.

The province must seriously implement the promulgated management system and economic policy with a high sense of responsibility and strict discipline, and oppose such phenomena as departmentalism and localism. It must strictly prohibit various echelons, sectors, agencies, enterprises, construction sites, state farms, and forestry sites under its control to arbitrarily establish their own internal distribution systems and conduct business transactions using the guild method. It must duly punish leading cadres whose units have violated the state policy, system, and law.

The province must develop the worker's right to collective mastery, accelerate intensive cultivation and multiccroppings, effectively distribute the workforce, exploit hillocks and flatten areas to plant trees and accelerate afforestation, produce consumer and export goods, fully exploit the strength and potentials of its land and labor and its material and technical bases in order to optimally fulfill the 1983 state plan, thereby preparing conditions for formulating and fulfilling the coming years' plans triumphantly.

CSO: 4209/21

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

HO CHI MINH CITY WANTS TO SUPPORT OIL-GAS SEARCH

BK141040 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 14 Oct 83

[Text] A delegation of Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee recently held a meeting with the Oil and Gas General Department in Vung Tau-Con Dao special zone to discuss measures to strengthen their cooperation and the role of Ho Chi Minh City in supporting various oil and gas exploitation projects starting from 1984.

With a large number of scientific and technical cadres and skilled workers, Ho Chi Minh City is a key source in supplying labor and providing technology to accelerate the construction of various gas and oil exploitation projects.

Since 1981, together with friendly units, various construction units of Ho Chi Minh City have engaged in many small projects and have completed them satisfactorily.

CSO: 4209/20

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

COASTAL DISTRICTS ASSISTED IN COMPLETING PLANS

BK141228 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 14 Oct 83

[Text] The joint party Central Committee and government organ of building is coordinating with sectors at the central level and in the coastal regions of the central area and Tay Nguyen to guide district authorities in arranging and completing the overall socioeconomic plans for coastal districts in line with the new potentials, conditions and requirements.

The arrangement and completion of the general plans is aimed at making districts more clearly realize their great potentials--especially in intensive cultivation--and their capability to resolve the local grain problem. Once well aware of their strengths, they will concentrate on most satisfactorily exploiting them.

With respect to the mountainous districts, including those in the coastal regions of the central part, the participants at the conference realized that in addition to comprehensively developing agricultural production--rice, subsidiary food and industrial crops, and animal raising--special attention should be paid to forestry planning so as to quickly establish an economic structure which will help districts steadily determine their production guidelines and cultivation patterns for the various crops and animal breeds, and develop production with high economic results.

In planning, district authorities should take into account the social conditions, the currently weak labor potential and guidelines for dealing with the problems of local labor and the workforce from other localities in order to secure sufficient labor forces to better exploit district strengths in terms of land.

The party committees and the people's committees of Quang Nam-Danang, Nghia Binh, Phu Khanh, Dac Lac, Lam Dong and Gia Lai-Cong Tum provinces have intensified and are intensifying their leadership and guidance control over districts, helping the latter continually arrange and complete their plans in accordance with the spirit of the fifth party congress resolutions and the resolutions of the party Central Committee's third and fourth plenums so that they can promptly determine their economic structure and production guidelines, and positively contribute to the successful implementation of state plans for 1983 and subsequent years.

CSO: 4209/20

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

CREDIT USES IN HA SON BINH'S AGRICULTURE DETAILED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Bui Huong Phuc: "Ha Son Binh Province Makes Selected Credit Investments"]

[Text] During the first several months of this year, the Ha Son Binh Provincial Bank made long-term investments in 39 lowland cooperatives and 55 mountain cooperatives totally 4,178,000 dong (63 percent of the total capital invested throughout the province). In the lowlands, this capital was invested in those cooperatives that sell to the state from 600 to 1,000 tons of grain each year, such as the Tam Hung Cooperative, the My Hung Cooperative, the Lien Bat Cooperative, the Phuong Tu Cooperative, the To Hieu Cooperative and so forth. In the mountains, the bank concentrated its investments in the construction of water conservancy projects in the Yen Thuy area, eight reservoirs in the Lac Son rice growing area and so forth. During the recent 5th month-spring season, 355 cooperatives received short-term loans and 335 cooperatives received long-term loans. The long-term loans totalled 6,663,000 dong (a 2.9-fold increase compared to the 1982 winter-spring season). Of this amount, the lowlands received 4,028,000 dong in loans and mountain cooperatives received 2,628,000 dong. These loans focused on the following requirements: water conservancy, draft power, soil improvement, the raising of the species of large livestock and the development of the trade sector. Long-term loans accounted for more than 80 percent of the capital invested in agricultural production. Short-term loans during the first 6 months of the year amounted to 51.1 million dong. During the 5th month-spring season, the bank loaned to agricultural cooperatives 42 million dong (an increase of 7.5 million dong compared to last year's 5th month-spring season). With this capital, agricultural cooperatives purchased 190 buffalo, 10 small mechanical plows, 20 water pumps, 15 milling machines, 3,500 tons of phosphate fertilizer, 1,000 tons of lime, 15,000 insecticide spray tanks, 300 tons of rice seed (new varieties) and 200 tons of diesel fuel.

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CSO: 4209/5

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

POSTED FOOD PRICES IGNORED IN HO CHI MINH CITY

Hanoi DOC LAP in Vietnamese 24 Aug 83 p 6

[Article by Bien Xanh: "Posted Prices"]

[Text] At present, all markets in Ho Chi Minh City have posted the prices of goods but the regulations needed to compel merchants to sell their goods at these posted prices are either lacking or not specific, consequently, cases such as the following occur:

One morning, I went to the An Dong Market to buy some meat, stopping in front of the store of a private merchant (because the state-operated and cooperative counters had very little meat, the lines were very long and they were only selling soup meat). I looked at the price list: hams: 120 dong per kilogram; lean meat: 110 dong per kilogram; pig's feet: 90 dong per kilogram; lard: 60 dong per kilogram; ribs...

When I asked the saleslady to sell me one-half kilogram of lean pork, she told me that the price was 140 dong per kilogram. Angry, I asked: your posted price is 110 dong, why are you charging me 140 dong? Smiling, she replied: "That list is there because it is supposed to be there; I buy expensive meat and must charge a high price. Those prices are posted merely to conform with regulations. You may buy it or not buy it, the choice is yours..."

Surrounding me were very many persons who were also buying meat, both large pieces and small pieces at prices...quoted verbally by the woman who owned the counter, none of which were posted prices. Meanwhile (ironically), over the market management committee's loudspeakers, the following words were being constantly repeated:

--Hello! All products must be sold at posted prices... Merchants who sell their products above these prices will be fined from 2,000 to 20,000 dong. Their business license will be revoked...etc...

However, the purchasing and sale of products at prices higher than posted prices continued to openly occur at this market of slightly less than 3,000 private merchant stands, in front of countless very neatly painted price lists, some red with gold lettering, some green with white lettering and beside the "useless" loudspeakers.

I thought to myself: at a time when state-operated and cooperative commerce does not have enough products or any products at all to sell (not to mention the products of state-operated and cooperative commerce that find their way to private merchants!) and the market management committee is not providing price guidance (the products of state-operated and cooperative commerce have also risen in price--in May and June, the state-operated and cooperative counters at the An Dong Market were selling meat at one price at the start of the month and another price at the end of the month), how can shoppers buy products at posted prices?

In addition, it is very difficult to compel private merchants to sell their products at stipulated prices by means of an empty "hello" when it is an effective inspection "network" that is needed! It is very difficult to uphold the right of ownership of the shopper when the shoppers at all stores must plead with salespersons to sell them what they want and must spend a lot of money to buy it!

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CSO: 4209/5

AGRICULTURE

PROGRESS OF NATIONWIDE LAND SURVEY REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 11 Sep 83 p 1

[Article: "More Than 4.3 Million Hectares of Land Surveyed and Adjusted by the Cropland Management Sector; Cropland Survey Completed by Tien Giang Province"]

[Text] To date, the country has surveyed and adjusted more than 4.3 million hectares of cropland, 13.08 percent of its natural land; registered the ownership of and compiled statistics on 50 percent of the land that has been surveyed; and classified 21 percent of the land used to raise rice. The provinces of the Mekong Delta have surveyed 50 percent of their land and registered 63 percent of the land that has been surveyed. On a nationwide basis, only Tien Giang Province has virtually completed the cropland survey. The provinces of Long An, Dong Thap, Ben Tre and Kien Giang and Ho Chi Minh City will complete the cropland survey this year. Ha Nam Ninh, Ha Son Binh, Hai Hung and Cuu Long Provinces have completed the survey in one "pilot project" district.

The cropland management sector has promptly reclaimed land that was being used illegally; conducted inspections to check compliance with the regulations governing the management and use of cropland at installations; and stopped and taken prompt steps to correct "violations." Through inspections conducted in 145 villages, Ha Nam Ninh Province discovered more than 3,000 hectares of land that were being used illegally.

However, progress has been slow and lacking in uniformity. The quality of some jobs has been limited; the registration of ownership and the compilation of statistics have been proceeding slowly. The classification of land and the prosecution of violations of the cropland management policy are taking longer than they should. The sector is gaining experience, improving its organizational and management skills and closely coordinating with and supporting the redistribution of cropland and the transformation of agriculture in the southern provinces as well as the payment of agricultural taxes in the northern provinces.

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CSO: 4209/5

AGRICULTURE

NHAN DAN ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT CONTRACT SYSTEM

BK081003 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 2 Oct 83

[NHAN DAN 3 October editorial: "Use Labor and Managerially Control Production Under Product Contracts"]

[Text] Through applying the system of product contracts with groups of workers and individual workers during the past seven crop seasons, many cooperatives and production collectives have succeeded in developing their production and business and improving the livelihood of agricultural workers. Specialized teams of workers have been rationally organized and assigned clear responsibilities. They can therefore satisfactorily achieve their production tasks and complicated technical jobs, and have become the core force on which cooperative members have relied.

If we organize labor cooperation and division well, we will be able to satisfactorily implement production tasks, serve the interests of both the economies of collectives and cooperative members, and contribute to strengthening socialist production relations. However, quite a number of primary production installations have failed to do so, slackening management and unconditionally awarding contracts for some tasks, even important ones. The fact that cooperative members who receive the contracts will fend for themselves does not guarantee fulfillment of production plans and technical regulations on intensive cultivation. Shorthanded families of needy cooperative members who lack capital will encounter even more difficulties. In such a situation, production yields low results, cooperative members lack enthusiasm, and management becomes difficult, adversely affecting the new production relations.

This situation is due partly to erroneous ideological conception and cadres' poor level of management knowledge, but also partly to the shortages of material and technical bases in cooperatives and production collectives while responsible sectors do not provide satisfactory support to production.

Production with high labor productivity and great economic results is a process combining material and technical factors with human labor. Product contracts motivate the members of cooperatives and production collectives to work actively and link their responsibility with the end results.

If we want to promote this positive aspect and produce many products, not only do we need conditions to ensure the development of production but also a proper management system to achieve labor cooperation and division. The managerial control of agriculture requires flexibility and creativity on the part of management cadres in all primary installations. They should refer to production targets, the conditions of material and technical bases, means of production, geographical location and population, and the scales of production units to assign jobs to the various specialized labor teams and contracted workers.

In awarding contracts, cooperatives and production collectives should establish the economic and technical norms and implementation plans for each task, and should regularly control, supervise, and accept the tasks upon completion to ensure that each task in the production process can be implemented in accordance with the prescribed techniques and time. At the same time, there should be a clear-cut system of rewards and punishments.

Only by well managing production can we promote the superiority of labor cooperation and division and stimulate the dynamism of all cooperative members and each individual worker. It is necessary to increase the material and technical bases, perfect the management machinery, conduct advanced training for those qualified management cadres, and clearly determine a proper remuneration system.

As a way to help overcome the practice of making unconditional contracts under the system of agricultural product contracts, the service sectors should improve their operating procedures to better serve agriculture, secure adequate means of production for agriculture, supply enough electricity and fuel to operate water pumps in fighting drought and waterlogging, and ship technical materials to primary production units in time to cope with the crop schedules.

Production units should establish regulations on product contracts, clearly determine the responsibility of collectives to workers and vice versa.

The system of product contracts with groups of workers and individual workers in agriculture has been implemented for almost 3 years now. It is high time that we derive experience from the primary production units in order to develop good points and overcome weaknesses and errors in the system for better management in order to increase labor productivity and grain production volume immediately in this winter-spring crop season.

CSO: 4209/20

AGRICULTURE

PHU KHANH REORGANIZES AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

OW092030 Hanoi VNA in English 1646 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 9 Oct--In the past 5 years since it began agricultural cooperation, Phu Khan Province, the merger of the former provinces of Phu Yen and Khanh Hoa on the east of central Vietnam, has built 242 agricultural co-ops and 252 production collectives, involving 97 per cent of the farmer families and over 90 per cent of the cultivated land.

The province has reorganized agricultural production and redistributed its agricultural workforce, moving some 70,000 people from over-populated centres to new economic zones and setting up 40 new villages and hamlets in the mountain areas. It has also helped more than 30,000 former nomads of ethnic minorities to settle for a sedentary life. The latter have so far reclaimed some 50,000 hectares of land.

Phu Khanh covers more than 9,800 square kms with more than 1,200,000 inhabitants. Before the liberation of southern Vietnam, agriculture in the province was brought to total stagnation with most of the cultivable lands left waste following the U.S.-puppets' forceable relocation of farmers in "strategic hamlets." Their fields were subjected to daily U.S. bombings or converted into military bases or defence perimetres.

Agricultural transformation along socialist lines began in 1978 after the feudal mode of exploitation was abolished. The peasants grouped themselves in mutual-aid teams or solidarity production groups. By the middle of 1979, the co-operation campaign had been basically completed with 75 per cent of the farmer families having joined collective farming.

At the same time, the province conducted surveys for crop zoning, expanded the irrigation system, introduced new rice strains, and urged the peasants to change their millenary planting habits.

With joint efforts of the government and people, Phu Khanh has restored a major irrigation project capable of watering 20,000 hectares in Tuy Hoa District and built over 120 new small- and medium-sized farm irrigation projects, thus expanding the area serviced by irrigation and drainage works to 35,000 hectares compared with only 24,400 hectares in 1976.

New short-term and pest tolerant rice strains have been selected and sown in replacement of the old and degenerated strains.

Plant-protection stations were built at all levels in the province, equipped with 5,500 insecticide sprayers.

Today, Phu Khanh has more than 2,000 agricultural technicians, including 300 university and secondary school graduates. The co-ops alone have some 800 workers of agricultural techniques. More than 2,500 farmers have finished short-term refreshner courses on agricultural science and techniques.

The improvement and reorganisation of agricultural production in Phu Khanh in the last years have brought remarkable achievements. The areas under food crops in 1982 rose by 11,500 [as received] and rice output doubled compared with 1976. The province has since 1977 not only become self-sufficient in food but also sold same surplus food to the state.

Last year, many co-ops and production collectives on Phu Khanh yielded from 7 tons upward of paddy per hectare in a year. Some of them achieved as many as 8-11 tons.

CSO: 4200/81

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

QUESTIONS RAISED ABOUT PROPOSED POWER PLANT IN SOUTH

Hanoi KHOA HOC VA DOI SONG in Vietnamese 1 Sep 83 p 3

[Article by Nguyen Viet Phach, Ph.D., the Ministry of Power: "The Tri An Hydroelectric Power Project"]

[Text] The Tri An Hydroelectric Power Plant is the project that has been selected for phase 1 construction on the steps of the Dong Nai River. Originating in the Lang Giang highlands in the southern portion of the Central Highlands at the confluence of the Da Dung and Da Nhim Rivers, the Dong Nai River flows to the southwest through the vast region of Lam Dong, Song Be and Thuan Hai Provinces and the provinces of Nam Bo, where it converges with the Saigon and Vam Co Dong Rivers and empties into the South China Sea through the Soi Rap Estuary. At Bien Hoa, the river's total length is estimated as 500 kilometers; its basin measures roughly 25,000 square kilometers and average rainfall within the basin is 2,200 mm per year. It is one of the large rivers that lie entirely within the territory of our country and ranks second behind the Da River in energy potential. Much research and survey data show that it is entirely reasonable, from the perspective of developing the potential energy that lies in the steps of the Dong Nai River both in the immediate future and over the long range, to select Tri An as the site of phase 1 construction. This project will have a combined effect: it will supply electricity and irrigation water to Dong Nai, Long An and Song Be Provinces and the Ho Chi Minh City area and impede the flow of salt water up the river.

With the assistance of the Soviet specialists and advisors, the Tri An project planning group (the Ministry of Power) successfully completed the project's initial economic-technical argumentation. These results were examined and approved by the review council of the two states, Vietnam and the USSR. At present, both sides are actively preparing for the technical design stage by negotiating the specific jobs that each will perform.

The Tri An hydroelectric power project will consist of the Dong Nai River dam (including flood control gates), which will create the main lake and the Rop Stream dam and the auxiliary dam system, which will create a smaller lake; the two lakes will be connected by a canal. The power plant that has been selected is of the water conduit type and consists of the following projects along the power generation line: an intake canal; the pressure chamber and

the openings that lead the water from the pressure intake pipes to the turbines of the plant for the installation of the generator sections; and the discharge canal behind the plant; which will connect the plant to the Dong Nai River.

The project is designed to have a rated capacity of 400,000 kilowatts and an average output of more than 1.6 billion kilowatt hours and will supply about 2 cubic kilometers of irrigation water and potable water each year. It can be said that the decision to construct this project was a correct one that will yield large benefits. Of course, to design, construct and prepare to put the project into operation, it is necessary to conduct research with a view toward resolving a number of problems that will arise.

To begin with, the minimum discharge from the plant must be sufficient to impede the flow of salt water up the river; this is related to the observation of the salt line, an analysis of the conditions underlying salt pollution by sea water, the operating procedures of the plant and the replenishment of water sources below the plant, especially at the intake conduit. Secondly, because the Tri An reservoir will have the task of supplying water to Ho Chi Minh City, Bien Hoa and other populated areas, it will be necessary to research and evaluate the quality of the water within it, clean the bottom of the reservoir and plan ways to purify the water discharged by the La Nga Sugar Mill and the other enterprises into the reservoir as well as the water coming from below the project into the intake conduit. Thirdly, there must be selective research into other ecological and environmental matters that will arise as a result of the projects construction. Fourthly, there must be research on the changes that will occur in the bottom of the intake canal, on intermittent and continuous water turbulence and so forth so that necessary conclusions can be reached to support immediate and long-range economic development forecasts.

Of the many problems with which the designers and builders are concerned, the most pressing is how to put generator section number 1 into operation at an early date. This is related to how the project is arranged, especially to planning the various project items along the power generation line in a way that makes it possible to achieve optimum economic-technical efficiency.

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CSO: 4209/5

LIGHT INDUSTRY

BRIEFS

PAPER PRODUCTION--In recent months, in order to support the 1983-1984 school year, the Bai Bang Paper Mill (Vinh Phu) has produced more than 310 million student notebooks using fine quality white paper. The finished product shop, which has an automated notebook production line that cuts, trims, prints covers, prints lines on paper and binds notebooks, organized its production in three continuous shifts, producing from 18,000 to 22,000 student notebooks each day. Since the start of this year, the mill has produced 6,300 tons of paper. In recent months, the rate of paper and student notebook production has increased. The workers and cadres of the mill have overcome numerous difficulties and made many innovations of value. However, the mill is still encountering difficulties that are affecting its production. During the first 6 months of the year, it received only 17 to 23 percent of the wood, bamboo, reeds, coal and so forth required under its plan for the entire year. The transportation of raw materials from wharves and storage yards to production warehouses still lacks coordination. [Text] [Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Sep 83 p 1] 7809

CSO: 4209/5

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

IMPROVEMENTS TO TRANSPORT CONTRACTS SUGGESTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Hoang The Phiet, deputy chief of the River Transport Department: "River Transport Department Conducts Pilot Project in the Use of Transport Agents for Both Coal and Grain"]

[Text] The use of transport agents is an important element in the process of improving the organization of management and helping to restore order in transportation. Council of Ministers' Decision 166 dated 24 September 1982 stated: "All managers of goods on the central and local levels who have cargo transportation requirements must enter into transport contracts with the transport agents of the central or local communications-transportation sector in accordance with the norms of the state plan. In the years ahead, the communications-transportation sector will undertake, on a pilot project basis, the transportation of several main products by a combination of transport modes for the purpose of gaining experience. Cargo managers will sign only one contract with the shipper for transportation of cargo from its point of origin to its destination..."

In keeping with this policy, the River Transport Department has researched and organized the implementation of various transport agent plans. In 1983 and 1984, the sector is serving as the transport agent for two main products, grain and coal (about 2 million tons each year, 60 percent of which is coal for electric power production). Specifically, it is a shipping and receiving consignment agent that arranges for various modes of transportation to coordinate with one another in the transportation of coal from mines to thermoelectric power plants and the transportation of grain from Haiphong and Quang Ninh to Hanoi and a number of border provinces.

In its role as transport agent for cargo, in general, and coal products (presently coal for electric power production), in particular, the River Transport Department has been and is taking numerous measures to improve the organization of its management and production; for example, the department has put its operations on a cost accounting basis; established an agent office, the function of which is to organize and guide transport agent work throughout the department; and established the Quang Ninh Regional Coordination Center, the director of which is a deputy chief of the department, to establish

coordination within the region, resolve problems regarding coal and perform the agent services involved in receiving and shipping. River Transport Corporations Numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 were established on the basis of reorganizing the transport enterprises and the ports that play the key role in river transportation within the region. These corporations perform all the transport services that arise in the process of handling and transporting cargo from receiving points to final destinations in accordance with the established division of labor. As a start, the sector completed the drafting of transport contracts and coal transport agent contracts for five electric power plants, which went into effect on 1 July 1983.

The transportation of grain to Hanoi and the border provinces is a job of important significance, a job which requires that adequate quantities of high quality grain be delivered on schedule. As a result, when acting as agent, it is necessary to establish numerous relationships among agencies within and outside the transport sector. The department has assigned River Transport Corporation Number 3 to be the receiving agent of the managers of cargo (with Long Distance Ocean Transport Corporation Number 1 serving as the shipping and receiving representative in the transportation of grain products from the Haiphong-Quang Ninh region, the port of Hanoi and the port of A Lu to the border). The port of Hanoi has accepted a commission to receive cargo transported by river and put it into storehouses and make arrangements with other means of transportation (trucks, rudimentary vehicles) to deliver it to ward and district storehouses. The port of A Lu in Ha Bac has accepted a commission to unload cargo, store it in its warehouses and make arrangements with the railroad and truck operators to deliver it to Cao Bang and Bac Thai.

Although the contracts are still being improved, a network of agents has been and is taking shape in accordance with the requirement of providing transportation support to Hanoi and the border.

The pilot project in the use of transport agents for the two products mentioned above has shown that the following several difficulties exist:

First, the shift from the old method of operating to the new method has affected every element of the operations within the communications-transportation sector and a number of sectors that manage cargo as well as the relations between the communications-transportation sector and the managers of cargo. This is most evident in thinking and organization. At some times and places, shippers have expressed a fear of difficulties and hardships, a fear of responsibility and managers of cargo, when consigning their shipments, readily agree to contract but, when implementing them, have procrastinated and posed obstacles to contracts. In some cases, there has been a lack of coordination and support among them for the purpose of supplying products for use in production and everyday life.

Secondly, material-technical bases are not well equipped and there is a shortage of everything, from warehouses, large scales and extra bags to such small items as sewing needles and jute twine. Papers, documentation and forms are in short supply and have not been revised to suit the new tasks being faced. Meanwhile, the cadres who perform the commercial agent work of the sector are confused about what they should be doing. Shipping and receiving

procedures, the scope of responsibilities, the acceptable percentage of loss, how to organize the flow of documentation, agent fees and how these fees are divided have not been clearly defined.

In order to overcome the difficulties mentioned above, it is necessary to enter into discussions and reach agreement with the managers of cargo and with the transport sectors that participate as agents. On the other hand, the Ministry of Communications and Transportation must research and promulgate general regulations.

Generally speaking, the transport agent work of the River Transport Department is gradually showing itself to be playing a positive role. Time is needed to evaluate results and evaluations must be verified on the basis of actual operations. However, the problem we face is that we must continue to actively maintain the use of transport agents in order to gradually achieve the full economic returns from their use. These returns are: the quick establishment of a unified system and the well coordinated resolution of problems involved in cargo transportation; a reduction in transport costs within the national economy, in general, and a reduction in cargo transportation costs, in particular; an increase in transportation capacity resulting from a reduction in the amount of time spent waiting, the amount of time spent handling cargo and the amount of time spent scheduling and an increase in the coefficient of highway use; the expediting of commercial affairs and the rapid and safe delivery of cargo; a reduction in the procedures that pose a bother to cargo managers; an increase in the responsibility of shippers and efforts against negative phenomena arising in supply and transport operations.

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CSO: 4209/5

LABOR

HANOI TRADE UNION FEDERATION CONGRESS CLOSES

OW141107 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Excerpts] After 3 days of activities, the ninth congress of the Hanoi Federation of Trade Unions concluded successfully this afternoon, 13 October.

Comrades To Huu, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguyen Duc Thuan, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions; Le Van Luong, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the Hanoi party committee; Tran Quoc Hoan, member of the party Central Committee and head of its proselytizing department; and Tran Vy, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee attended the congress.

In the concluding session, the congress organized the citation and awarding of banners by the Hanoi Federation of Trade Unions to 15 units and letters of commendation to 34 grassroots trade union units. The congress elected the Ninth Executive Committee of the Hanoi Federation of Trade Unions comprising 55 members with Comrade Pham Loi, member of the Hanoi party committee, as its secretary. It also elected a 35-member delegation from Hanoi trade unions to attend the Fifth National Trade Union Congress.

In conclusion, amid an enthusiastic atmosphere, on behalf of 500,000 workers and civil servants of the capital, the congress adopted a resolution vigorously condemning the U.S. imperialists' acts of military adventure and arms race and warmly approving the Soviet Union's peace initiatives and the 28 September 1983 statement by Comrade Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The resolution, read by Comrade Le Quy Don, member of the Standing Committee of the Hanoi Federation of Trade Union, reads in part: [Begin Le Quy Don recording] We vehemently condemn U.S. imperialism for colluding with international reactionary forces, including the Beijing reactionaries, which are carrying out a counterrevolutionary and global counteroffensive against the Soviet Union, Vietnam, other countries in the socialist community, and the revolutionary struggle movement for national independence, democracy, freedom, and peace, seriously threatening the peace and security of Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, and the rest of the world.

With an earnest desire to live a quiet and happy life in peace so as to rebuild our land, we are resolve: To strive to successfully build socialism and firmly defend our socialist Vietnamese fatherland, and at the same time to strengthen our solidarity with the working class, the laboring people, and the trade union organizations of the Soviet Union, Laos, Kampuchea, and other fraternal socialist countries, and join the entire progressive mankind in actively struggling for peace and security in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world; to enthusiastically acclaim the peace policies of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries; to vigorously condemn the warlike policies of the United States and international reactionary forces.

Long live world peace!

Hanoi, 13 October 1983

All the delegates to the ninth congress of the Hanoi Federation of Trade Unions. [Applause] [End recording]

CSO: 4209/20

LABOR

HANOI TRADE UNION FEDERATION OPENS 9TH CONGRESS

OW120725 Hanoi VNA in English 1653 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 11 Oct--The Hanoi Federation of Trade Unions today opened its Ninth Congress and received the labour order, first class, awarded by the Vietnamese Council of State.

The congress was attended by 500 delegates representing nearly 500,000 cadres, workers and public servants in the capital city.

Present at the opening ceremony were to Huu, political bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice-chairman of the council of ministers; Le Quang Dao, secretary of the party Central Committee; Nguyen Duc Thuan, member of the party Central Committee and president of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions; Tran Quoc Hoan, member of the party Central Committee and head of its department for mass agitation and national front work; Le Van Luong, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the Hanoi Party Committee; Tran Vy, member of the party Central Committee and mayor of Hanoi; Prof Dr Pham Khac Quang, president of the Hanoi Fatherland Front Committee; and other officials.

Vice-chairman to Huu handed the decoration over to the Hanoi Trade Union organization and warmly welcomed its congress. After highlighting the achievements and warmly welcomed its congress. After highlighting the achievements already recorded by the Hanoi Trade Union movement over the past years, he pointed to its main tasks in the years to come, which include the following:

--strongly mobilising all workers and public employees to bring into play their collective mastery in simultaneously carrying out the three revolutions with the (?aim) of achieving the socio-economic targets in the 1983-1985 period as defined in the resolution of the Ninth Congress of the Hanoi Party Organization.

--enhancing the people's revolutionary vigilance and fighting against the enemy's multi-faceted war of sabotage; and

--building a strong contingent of workers and public employees in the spirit of the resolution of the party Central Committee's political bureau on Hanoi's tasks, with particular attention being paid to the younger generation of cadres and workers.

The congress also heard a report by the executive committee of the Hanoi Federation of the Workers' Movement and Trade Union activities in the capital city over the past 2 years, and on the objectives and tasks of the Hanoi trade unions in the coming years.

POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

ISLAMIC OFFICIAL DESCRIBES MUSLIMS IN SRV

OW051808 Hanoi VNA in English 1517 GMT 5 Oct 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 5 October--A representative of the Islamic Development Bank who visited Vietnam and Kampuchea several times has said that through his formal as well as informal talks with people of the Muslim faith, he noticed a "very active" life in the mosques and quranic education was being given to large numbers of boys and girls.

Seddik Taouti, special assistant to the president of the Islamic Development Bank in Jiddah (Saudi Arabia) who visited Vietnam in January 1982 wrote in his special report published in the journal "Institute of Muslim Minority Affairs."

A sizeable Muslim community lives in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. They are settled in three different regions: In the centre-east in Ho Chi Minh City, in the south-west at Tay Ninh, and on the frontier with Kampuchea at An Giang.

The oldest of these communities is installed on the coastal plains of central Vietnam, in the former Annam, in the region of Thuan Hai, this region is more than 300 km north-east of Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon.

We arrived in Hanoi on Friday, 22 January 1982 and thanks to the authorities we were able to leave for Ho Chi Minh City the next day. Our flight landed at 9 a.m. a representative of the people's committee received us. The city was preparing itself for the Tet Festival. We informed the representative that we were nevertheless keen to meet the leaders of the Muslim community.

On the first day we visited three mosques, and attended lessons for the teaching of the qoran to children. The next Sunday under the guidance of the bilal, we visited four other mosques. In one of these mosques we found members of the community preparing a feast for the afternoon, with a competition for the best recitation of the qoran by boys and girls. We made a particular request to those Muslims whom I had already met during my last mission in June 1981 to invite four representatives from each of the mosques of Ho Chi Minh City, to participate in meeting in the Jamia mosque at 66 Dong Du Street.

The meeting was well-attended. We lunched with the members of the committee. Then performed the prayers with about a hundred of the faithful. Each mosque was represented by more than four persons, as well as by all the locals.

Together we established a committee composed of the presidents of the different mosque committees.

It was named as the mosque coordination committee of Ho Chi Minh City which was to hold a monthly meeting to study the problems of different mosques. Based on this committee, we set up a permanent bureau.

The headquarters of this bureau are at Phu Nhuan, which besides being a very central location also represents a locality inhabited by a large Muslim community. Its head, Haj Apdal Haliem, is recognised by the city authorities as president of the community. The mosque in the locality is very active and the annexed school gives quranic education to a large number of boys and girls. There is a second mosque also, and the Islamic Bank has given assistance of U.S. \$200,000 for the purchase of material for the construction of a school for local Muslim children to be attached to this mosque. The vice president of the bureau is also director of a small mosque with an over-crowded quaranic school, which deserves particular attention. The secretary directs the mosque called the Masjid Rahim. The most beautiful mosque in the city is at 66 Dong Du Street.

In addition to these two communities, there is the community, which lives on the frontier with Kampuchea. It is a large community. It appears that the city of An Giang is in majority Muslim. These Muslims are in regular touch with their compatriots in Ho Chi Minh City, as well as in Kampuchea. They are all of Cham origin, but are more outward looking than those who live in the centre of Vietnam. Their language is close to that of the Muslims of Kampuchea. Both use the Arabic alphabet for writing.

I must acknowledge that the Vietnamese authorities asked me to visit all these communities, and that it was only because of a shortage of time that I was unable to do so.

I cannot end this over-view of Islam in Vietnam without mentioning the Hanoi mosque.

It is historical and well planned, and if it is small, it has nevertheless a large covered court, toilets with running water, high, very visible minarets and lodgings for the concierge.

There is an important foreign Muslim colony here: Besides four Yemeni students and three Palestinian students, there are diplomats [sentence indistinct].

CSO: 4200/81

END